

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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## TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE return of Mr. Western Wood to Parliament as representative of the city of London is naturally the source of much congratulation to the Liberal party. They do not, indeed, stop to inquire by what means their success was chiefly attained. Ever prattling and prosing about purity of election and the suppression of all corrupt practices and usages, they are, nevertheless, quite willing to avail themselves of every chance in their favour, without too closely examining its precise nature. For how many votes, we would ask, was Mr. Wood indebted to the "longshore" men? And what was the exact motive which induced them to vote for the one candidate in preference to the other? Though studiously designated by his opponents "a staunch old Tory," the Lord Mayor actually belongs to the most advanced and liberal section of the great Conservative party. His votes on national questions have on all occasions borne evidence to a singular freedom from prejudice, while his acknowledged popularity is the best proof of his consistent advocacy of the ancient privileges of the citizens of London. And yet we find a numerically important but morally contemptible body of voters making common cause against him in favour of an unknown and untried, though, no doubt, highly respectable, individual. To what cause, then, is this wonderful unanimity to be ascribed? Agreeing on no other point, how came they to act in such perfect harmony with regard to the choice of a representative in Parliament? These are questions more easy to ask than satisfactorily to answer. There was, however, another element at work more hostile to Mr. Cubitt's election than the suspicious opposition of the longshore men. It so happens that a large number of masons reside within the City boundaries, who, in spite of their alleged grievances, are sufficiently well-to-do in their circumstances to exercise the franchise. To these men it little mattered whether Whig or Tory, Trojan or Tyrian, administered the affairs of the nation. In their eyes, the present election was no question as between Conservatism or Liberalism, but simply an opportunity for passing a slight upon one of the master builders in whose service they

have "waxed fat." There is nothing surprising in all this. Men of more cultured minds often condescend to as mean a revenge, but the result has been to place the Lord Mayor in a decided minority. It is now idle to inquire how the contest would have terminated had the Conservative electors more generally done their duty; for it is obvious that very many Liberals also hung back, and it is consequently quite impossible to say what would have been the issue had both parties been more in earnest. Whether for good or for evil, it is an indisputable fact that great apathy prevails throughout the country as to the exercise of the franchise. Those who possess that once-coveted privilege do not care to make use of it; while those who are still free from that responsibility give themselves no trouble to incur or acquire it. Lord John Russell has therefore done wisely to imitate *Astræa*, and—as Lord Derby observed with happy humour—"disgusted with the follies and iniquities of the lower world, rise to a higher, a calmer, and a purer atmosphere."

But, in shuffling off the mortal coil of a representative of the people, we trust that Earl Russell will hold firmly to that line of foreign policy by which he has won the respect and confidence of all classes of his fellow-countrymen. His reply to Mr. Kinglake and Sir Robert Peel on the subject of the rumoured cession to France of the Island of Sardinia was every way worthy of a British Minister, and can hardly fail to strengthen the hands of Baron Ricasoli, and ensure the ultimate establishment of the Italian kingdom without any further recourse to disgraceful barter and underhand compromise. It is impossible for France to gain any accession of territory, or even of influence, in the Mediterranean without danger to the independence of Spain and Italy, or without detriment to the commercial interests of Great Britain. Lord John, however, went far beyond this. He declared that the annexation of Sardinia to France would at once put an end to the Anglo-French alliance, and plainly alluded to an ultimate resort to the arbitration of arms. He insisted upon the necessity of maintaining our Army and Navy in the highest degree

of efficiency, for upon them depended not only the greatness but the independence of the nation—adopting almost the words of the Roman General to his soldiers, "Many a time have we fought for glory, but now we must struggle for our very existence." That the good understanding between the French and English Governments is of a very precarious and by no means cordial nature is clear from the recent debate in the Commons on the subject of iron-plated ships. France has manifestly nothing to fear from a maritime war with any country but England, and it is equally certain that England will never enter upon an aggressive war. What, then, is the meaning of the vast naval preparations so silently but so persistently pushed forward by our restless neighbour and most jealous ally? If not directed against the naval superiority of Great Britain, what object, what purpose, can they have? Louis Napoleon is not the man to exhaust and fritter away the resources of his empire for the gratification of an idle vanity. He has restored the Napoleonic dynasty, he has checked Russia in the East, humbled Austria, asserted the power of his arms in Syria, and torn to shreds the obnoxious Treaties of Vienna. But England still remains erect, firm, vigilant, and defiant as in the days of his great ancestor; and still asserts, if not her supremacy, at least her superiority on the seas. Through the destruction of her naval power alone can Waterloo be avenged, and that duty Louis Napoleon himself has solemnly declared to be a part of his "mission." Even Mr. Lindsay is at length convinced that England must be "up and doing," or else submit to strike her flag to France. It would, of course, be absurd to expect a similar display of candour on the part of Mr. Cobden; but it is certainly a curious corollary to that Commercial Treaty which was to bring about an era of peace and goodwill that on either side of the Channel nothing is now thought of but preparations for "the coming struggle."

The word "compromise" is again heard from the western shores of the Atlantic. It is a consummation devoutly to be wished for, though, on purely selfish grounds, the dissolution of the Union would probably be more advantageous to this



MR. JOSEPH MIDDLETON JOPLING.

CAPTAIN HORATIO ROSS.

SERGEANT GEORGE GIBBS.

SERGEANT H. ROWE.

THE LATE RIFLE-SHOOTING CONTEST AT WIMBLEDON.—THE WINNERS OF THE CHIEF PRIZES.—FROM PHOTOGRAPHS BY HERBERT WATKINS AND CLAUDET.



country. Disunited, the Northern and Southern Confederacies would be sufficiently engaged in watching one another, and too much interested in bidding for the moral support of Great Britain, to pursue the coarse, blustering, arrogant line of conduct which has hitherto rendered all diplomatic relations with them so perilous and disagreeable. Nothing is to be won from their love, but justice and moderation may be extorted from their weakness. It is unlikely, however—or, at least, contrary to all past experience—that either confederacy would long retain a democratic form of government. The necessity of maintaining a standing army and a naval force as a check upon one another will inevitably result in a military dictatorship, the first step to an hereditary monarchy. Then, at last, true liberty will be enjoyed in America, and “hard shells” and “soft shells” will alike come to understand that personal freedom is quite compatible with deference towards one's neighbour, and that equality before the law does not imply impunity for the assassin and the bully.

There is now an opening for a Limited Liability Company on a large scale. The chairman shall win a crown, the directors shall become, as in the French play, Barons, Viscounts, Dukes, perhaps Lord Mayors; the secretary shall be Chancellor of the Exchequer; the solicitor and counsel shall toss for the Woolsack, while the bankers shall receive a special monopoly of the mint currency. Is the prospectus not sufficiently attractive? Let us hasten, then, to add that there is going a-begging a vast and beautiful plateau of the most fertile land, clothed in the most rich and gorgeous vegetation, abounding in all kinds of wealth; in short, where “all save the spirit of man is divine.” The kingdom of Mexico is to be had—for the winning of it. The conquest of the country would not be more difficult than in the time of Cortez. Duke Rollo and his sea kings would overrun it in a month. Garibaldi might be King in a fortnight. Is the spirit of adventure then, dead? Are there no gallant souls eager to open the oyster with their sword, to carve their name upon tablets more lasting than bronze, to win a dukedom with stout heart and ready hand? A kingdom to be had, and no bidders! Alas for the olden times, the days of the horse and his rider, of the sword, the shield, and the bow!

The good knights are dust,  
Their swords are rust,  
Their souls are with the saints, we trust.

Not unscathed have we passed through the tail of the comet. Horrors succeed to horrors, scandal to scandal. Nor is it among the uneducated classes that the most atrocious crimes have of late been committed. It is the middle class that has been most seriously implicated—that class of which Englishmen are so proud, that class which is usually spoken of as the backbone and mainstay of the country. How are we to account for this? Is it, as some suppose, that the feverish excitement of the present generation has affected their brains? Is there really a concussion caused by rapid railway travelling? In short, do we all live too fast, crowding into a month the sensations of a year? Not so, we firmly believe. There is, simply, greater and more detailed publicity given to every event; and among thirty millions of a high-spirited, energetic race painful occurrences are naturally more frequent than when the population was not one-half so great. The heart of the nation is as true and as sound as ever.

#### THE WINNERS OF THE RIFLE PRIZES AT WIMBLEDON.

We are able this week to present our readers with the Portraits of some of the gentlemen who distinguished themselves by winning the principal prizes at the late rifle contest at Wimbledon.

Mr. Joseph Middleton Jopling, who won the Queen's Prize, may, of course, be considered the best man of his year; and it is gratifying to know that he holds a public appointment in the Adjutant-General's Office, in which department his father, the late Charles Jopling, served for more than forty years previous to his death. Mr. J. M. Jopling was born in 1836, and was originally intended for the army; but, his father's death occurring soon after he left school, Sir John Macdonald offered the lad an appointment which he still continues to hold. In the midst of his duties, and while following the practice which has enabled him to carry off the first prize, Mr. Jopling has successfully cultivated the elegant arts, since he is a member (and not the least famous member) of the New Society of Painters in Water Colours. Some of Mr. Jopling's family connections have attained a degree of eminence in various departments of art or science; while his cousins, who, with him, are members of the South Middlesex Corps, have just received the contract from King Victor Emmanuel for the Italian railways now in course of construction from Leghorn towards Rome. Mr. Jopling went through the abridged course of musketry instruction at Hythe in December, 1860.

Sergeant Gibbs, of Bristol, the winner of the Rifle Derby, is a native of Bishop's Lydeard, near Taunton, and comes of a long line of agriculturists, his father having been one of nine sons, who were to be seen reaping in the same field together, in company with their father. Mr. Gibbs commenced business in Bristol as a brewer, but abandoned it in 1833 for that of a gunmaker, which seems to have been successful, as he has a large connection amongst sportsmen. Mr. Gibbs has offered to back himself to shoot with a smooth bore, either in cover, or the open, but, we believe, has met with no antagonist at present—a circumstance, perhaps, to be explained by the fact of his having on one occasion killed two woodcocks on the wing with a single shot. He has before won two of the first prizes (the Lord Lieutenant's and the Bristol Artillery) at the local meetings, on the last occasion taking the lead of 108 competitors, with 12 points, seven shots at 300 yards.

It would seem almost unnecessary to say much of Captain Ross, of the 6th Kincardine, the winner of the Association Cup and the Duke of Cambridge's Prize; for the name of the famous deerstalker whose son carried off the Queen's Prize, as well as some others, last year, and has also acquitted himself well at the late contest, is already well known. Mr. Ross has spent many years both in sporting and target-shooting, and was one of the first who recognised the advantage of adopting the rifle as a weapon and making the practice of it the foundation for establishing a volunteer army of defence. The successful competitor for the Dudley Prize, Mr. Rowe, is a member of the 1st Devon Rifles; and we are glad to know that the Devon men are still, as they always have been, amongst the foremost to show both skill and patriotism. Their intense nationality has never been questioned, and has suffered nothing in the hands of their representative at the late meeting at Wimbledon.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

The Emperor of the French returned to Fontainebleau on Wednesday. About the 19th of August he will go to the camp at Châlons, where, it is now stated as certain, the King of Prussia has accepted an invitation to be present. The King of Sweden is expected to arrive in Paris on the 7th.

### SPAIN.

A telegram from Madrid announces the explosion of a powder-magazine at Villa Felice, Aragon. One hundred mills were burned down, twenty workmen killed, and seventy injured.

The number of persons now in the prison of Loja awaiting trial is no fewer than 158.

The *Correspondencia* says that there is no truth in the statement of certain journals that the Duc de Montpensier is about to remove his residence from Seville to Madrid, and, in his capacity of Captain-General of the Army, to take an important military command.

### AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

Letters from Pest describe the reception of the Royal Rescript in the two Chambers of the Hungarian Diet. In the Lower House during the first quarter of an hour it was listened to in a silence which was only broken by occasional groans; but, when the paragraph was read summoning the Diet to send deputies to the Vienna Reichsrath, the hall resounded with a burst of contemptuous laughter. The Rescript was received with similar manifestations of dislike and contempt in the Upper House. The people are said to be embittered to the last degree, and present appearances indicate a rupture.

A stormy discussion on the question of the nationalities took place yesterday week in the Lower House of the Reichsrath. All the members of the Right, with the exception of three, left the House—previously, however, reserving to themselves the right of expressing their views on a future occasion. At the next day's sitting the President declared that the retirement of the members of the Right arose from a misapprehension of his words. The members of the Right thereupon resumed their seats.

An article in a semi-official journal gives a denial to the rumour of a new loan, and says:—“The Financial Administration can cover all the expenses of the State until the question of the finances shall have found a constitutional solution. Even from Hungary no considerable amounts are received, while the military expenditure is decreasing.”

### DENMARK.

At a late Cabinet Council the Danish Government discussed the propositions to be made by Denmark to the Frankfurt Diet, with a view to neutralise the menace of military execution in the duchy of Holstein, and came to the resolution to suspend provisionally in the German duchies the application of the finance laws relating to the share which those duchies are to bear in the general expenses of the monarchy, and also to submit to the Diets of the duchies the estimates relative to the army, navy, and the civil and diplomatic departments, the said Diets to fix the proportions to be borne by the duchies. These concessions are attributed to the advice of England, France, and Russia; and it is hoped that the Germanic Diet will be satisfied with them, and thus secure the maintenance of peace in the north of Europe.

### TURKEY AND THE EAST.

Reform is still the order of the day at Constantinople. The Council of Justice has been purged and reorganised, the *personnel* of the *Mudirs* is to be purified, and the rations to civil servants are to be stopped.

The *Levant Herald*, an English journal, has been suspended for two months on a complaint from the French Embassy, the nature of which is not explained.

The *East German Post* of Vienna publishes an account of a sudden attack made by the people of the Herzegovina upon the Turkish troops at three several points, the result of which is represented to have been that the latter were defeated, and driven back in confusion with considerable loss.

The conference which was to have been held at Ziblik between Omer Pacha and the Prince of Montenegro has not yet taken place, owing to the latter being ill.

Paris papers say that the Ottoman Government has given up the idea of an investigation in the case of Riza Pacha.

### INDIA AND CHINA.

The overland mail has put us in possession of papers from Calcutta to June 22, and from Hong-Kong to June 11. Everything was quiet at Calcutta. The various changes in the native army were being actively carried out; and all reports about the famine were dying away.

In China political matters were on a satisfactory footing, though the continued absence of the Emperor from Peking prevented that full confidence so essential in international relations; Prince Kung, however, continued on the most friendly footing with the English and French Ambassadors. The movements of the rebels were still enveloped in mystery. It was stated they had been driven south, and that trade had, in consequence, much improved at Tien-Tsin. A panic is reported in the opium markets.

### AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

#### THE ITALIAN KINGDOM.

Cialdini's predecessor, Count San Martino, has written a long letter in explanation of the motives which induced him so abruptly to resign his office. Count San Martino describes very fully the nature of the steps he proposed to take in order to suppress the brigand movement, and the delays which were interposed by the slowness of the central Government. He speaks highly of the general good order and patriotism of the people of Naples, and declares that the brigand movement, if taken in time, might have been easily crushed; but he maintains that the nature of the powers entrusted to General Cialdini left him incapable of independent action, and forced him, therefore, to give in his resignation.

The official journal of Turin states that two men have just been arrested in that city upon a charge of enlisting recruits for the Pontifical, or, we presume, the Bourbon, Army. They had Austrian and Papal passports, and lists of men enrolled. Their object is supposed to have been to enter the Italian army for the purpose of corrupting the soldiers. Some reactionary symptoms have been displayed at Iscanella, in Central Italy. In the south General Cialdini has issued a second proclamation, couched in language which appears to be made purposely fervid and southern of tone, in which he appeals to the support and co-operation of every member of the Liberal party and every lover of liberty. It is said that Cialdini has pledged himself to suppress the brigand movement entirely, and to restore, prior to the visit of the King, the Neapolitan provinces to a condition of security and peace before the beginning of September. Cialdini is described as having determined to assail the Bourbon conspiracy, not merely among its brigand followers in the Abruzzi, but also among its hidden instigators in high ecclesiastical and other offices. Among the first acts of Cialdini's administration was the dismissal of Spaventa, the Police Minister, whose unpopularity was so notorious, and whose retention in office had long created general discontent in Naples. A report that the Cardinal Archbishop of Naples had been arrested is contradicted.

The Italian loan has proved very successful. The tenders amounted to 581,000,000*l.*, which will have to be reduced 42 per cent.

#### THE PAPACY.

A telegram which comes from Rome, and bears the aspect of a piece of news of Ultramontane manufacture, affirms that the

Emperor of the French has dispatched an assurance to the Pope that he will defend Rome and the Papacy at any cost, and under any circumstances, even in the event of the Papal throne becoming vacant. Defend Rome and the Papacy may merely mean sustaining the part which the Emperor has all along pledged himself to support—that of securing full freedom of action and unconstrained existence to the spiritual sovereignty of the Pope.

The following most astounding news appears in large type in the *Pays* :—

A scene of a grave character has lately passed at Rome, and one which shows how greatly the sentiments of certain members of the Papal Government differ from those of the Holy Father, who never speaks of the Emperor without testifying the gratitude which he owes to him. In a recent affray between a French and a Roman soldier about a woman the Frenchman was wounded. According to existing conventions the Pontifical soldier ought to have been given up to be tried by a French court-martial, and General de Goyon claimed him. Mgr. de Merode refused. The General then applied to Cardinal Antonelli, who admitted the claim, and gave orders accordingly. Mgr. de Merode still refused. The question was brought before the Pope, who ordered Mgr. de Merode to give up the soldier. Mgr. de Merode still obstinately resisted this sovereign command. He went to General de Goyon in a state of great irritation, and, with threatening gestures, spoke in a most insulting way of the Emperor Napoleon. The General then ordered him to be silent, and told him that, since he wore a priest's dress, he could not box his ears; but he desired him to consider himself as having received it morally, and he added that if he, (Mgr. de Merode) would throw off his frock, he (the General) would take off his uniform, and was ready to fight him. Mgr. de Merode took refuge in his ecclesiastical character. The General answered that, in any case, he maintained the moral chastisement; and he at once sent to Fort St. Angelo for the Roman soldier, who was at length given up to him.

There was a rumour in Paris on Wednesday that General Goyon had been recalled; the report is now contradicted.

### THE AMERICAN CONFLICT.

The news from America is becoming brisker. General McClellan, after defeating the Southern force at Rich Mountain, pushed on and occupied Beverly, where he received propositions of surrender from Colonel Pegram, by which some 900 or 1000 prisoners fell into his hands, all of whom expressed repentance for their rebellious acts, and promised never again to join the ranks of the Confederates.

Another victory also attended the Northern arms. The Southern forces, under General Garnett, while retreating from Laurel Hill to St. George, were overtaken when within six miles of the latter place. A brisk fight ensued, which ended in the complete defeat and rout of the Southerners. General Garnett was killed while rallying his men. The discomfited Southerners fled towards Horseshoe Valley, where it was supposed they would be intercepted by General Hill, who was posted with his army in that direction. General McClellan, in his despatch, describes the success of the Northern force as so complete that he believes secession is killed in Western Virginia. The whole of the Union army has advanced into Virginia.

The main body of the Federal army commenced its march on Richmond on the 17th ult. It met with no serious resistance until it reached Dalbram, a fortified place, three miles from Manassas Junction, on the following day, in attacking which the advanced guard was repulsed by the Confederates. Afterwards, however, the position was carried by the Federal troops. It is reported that the Confederate force at Richmond numbered 10,000 men, and at Manassas Junction 60,000. A battle appeared imminent.

The steamer Yorktown has been seized by the Confederates, who have iron-cased and mounted her with eight 64-pounders.

The Government has decided that no more fugitive slaves shall be allowed to follow the army.

Congress was vigorously engaged in passing measures to strengthen both the Army and Navy, and had dispatched several vessels to look after the Sumter and other privateers, who had succeeded in capturing a total of forty-one vessels belonging to the States. Seven had been taken into Cienfuegos, but it is said the Governor of Cuba had ordered them to be released.

Mr. Breckenridge lately made a strong speech declaring the acts of President Lincoln, especially the suspension of the Habeas Corpus, to be an unconstitutional usurpation of power. He said the country was rushing with rapid strides from constitutional government to military despotism, yet so great on one side was the passion of the hour, and so astonishing the stupid amazement of the other, that these things were taken as natural and right. He referred to the refusal to adopt the Crittenden compromise, and wished the country to know that Congress had deliberately refused a last effort to avert the horrors of internal strife and warfare.

The effect on the people at Washington of General McClellan's victory appears to have been tremendous. “The name of General McClellan is upon every lip. His praises are sung by the Government Ministers, the military officials, from the highest to the lowest, and the universal populace. A second victory by General McClellan in less than twenty-four hours! ‘Hurrah for McClellan!’ is shouted on the street, and ‘Here’s to McClellan!’ is the toast in private parlours, at tables, and in barrooms. There never was such enthusiasm as is manifested over the gallant young General's official despatch to-night (the 13th) of his routing of the rebels at Beverly. The non-combatants, who are eternally crying out for a fight and seem eager for a fray, and have sworn that there never would be a ‘forward march,’ are struck dumb by McClellan's splendid action. All tongues unite in pronouncing him the Garibaldi of the war. Without going into details, it is sufficient to say we are all in high glee in Washington, and the most flattering prospects are before us, in every sense of the word.”

The disaffected soldiers of the 1st German New York Regiment, who were “gaoled” for refusing the arms allotted them by the Government, have repented of their folly, and are now willing to render obedience. The revolting Garibaldians are still under arrest.

THE GREAT EASTERN AT QUEBEC.—The arrival of the Great Eastern at Quebec excited great interest. No sooner was her approach telegraphed from Father Point than every available craft was pressed into service to welcome the Leviathan—the Mayor, the City Corporation, the members of the Board of Trade, the Chief Commissioner of Public Works, and other official personages of the city taking the lead, on board the *Napoleon*. The *Canadian News* says:—“The excursionists in all the steamers had nearly reached the further end of the Island of Orleans when a dense cloud of smoke in the distance told that something unusual was at hand. All the telescopes and opera-glasses on board were at once directed to the horizon, and very soon the Great Eastern was distinctly made out. Her great breadth, as she came up stem on, was the first thing remarked. As she came nearer her six great masts, destitute of yards—her five huge funnels—her paddle-boxes, themselves bigger than many a river steamer—her numerous boats—all became visible, when, putting on full speed for the moment, she moved majestically past, and her full grandeur became apparent, as without the slightest ‘swell’ she cut through the calm waters of the St. Lawrence. The feelings of delight and of national pride burst forth in hearty cheers from all, which were nobly heartily returned by the soldiers and passengers who crowded the decks, and filled even the boats as they hung from their massive davits. The bands played national airs; the Great Eastern acknowledged the compliment by a salute; she slowed her engines to accommodate her speed to that of the steamers that had come out to meet her, and, accompanied by them, she proceeded to Quebec. There every wharf was crowded; the batteries, the glacis, even the citadel, manned by numerous hosts of people, admiring the sight as the big ship moved up, dawning into nothingness by comparison not only the timber ships in port, but even the magnificent Golden Pleece herself. She glided up to her berth without the slightest accident, though the harbour was pretty full, and the water alive with steam, sail, and row boats, and dropped her anchors somewhat above the Queen's wharf at about seven o'clock, making the passage from Liverpool in about nine days.”

THE FRENCH HARVEST.—A Paris letter states:—“The latest accounts received with respect to the harvest are not satisfactory. The wheat crop is deficient in the number of sheaves, and the weight after threshing is inferior to that of a fair average crop. Many fields of wheat are injured by rust, and in other places the corn on the ground has heated. The farmers who cut their wheat before it arrived at maturity have suffered least.”



## BRITISH SUBJECTS IN THE SOUTHERN STATES.

An article in a New Orleans journal, the *Picayune*, imputing the truth of the statement made by Mr. W. H. Russell to the effect that British subjects had been forcibly enlisted for the Confederate army, has called forth a letter to that paper from Mr. Muir, the English Consul, in which he says:—

It is not the fact that one or two isolated cases of British subjects who enlisted in the army, and, "having thought better of it," then invoked my protection, made the basis of Mr. Russell's statement, or, as you call it, "monstrous invention." But it is the fact that since the 25th of April to this present day, with very slight intermission, many British subjects, some of whom were only a few weeks in the country, were seized, and forcibly carried off from the levee, steam-boat landings, boarding-houses, &c., to the different places of rendezvous of military companies. When the men resisted they were frequently assaulted, knocked down, and, being overpowered, carried off in furniture-waggons to the headquarters of these embryo companies, where the most violent threats were used to compel them to sign the papers.

When these outrages commenced I addressed, in the end of April and beginning of May, communications to his Excellency Governor Moore, who at once granted all the redress in his power, by ordering the discharge of those men whose names I could furnish as having been illegally impressed. His Excellency at the same time expressed "his unqualified condemnation" of such outrages, and stated that he would endeavour to put an end to them, as far as he had any control or authority over the parties implicated. I believe that in one case a company was ordered to be disbanded in consequence of the very flagrant conduct of the recruiting squads, who had kidnapped men in midday at the end of the Shell-road.

At the time of Mr. Russell's arrival in this city, about thirty-five or forty of these "illegal musters" had been discharged, and my office was still clogged by women imploring me to get their husbands released. Within the last few days there have been over twenty applications of a similar kind, and some of the men, according to the evidence, have been most severely maltreated. One woman alleges that her husband was seized while on his way to procure medical help for her child, that it was three days before she discovered the rendezvous, where she was not allowed to hold any communication with him, but he was confined, and when she saw him he was tied by cords, and so disfigured by bruises that she scarcely recognised him. She was threatened with the prison if she troubled them again.

I do not wish to trespass upon your columns by multiplying instances. Instead of one repenting volunteer, there have been about sixty cases of impressed British subjects reported at my office. I am somewhat surprised, when so much patriotic spirit has been evinced in the filling up of military companies with so much rapidity, that any resort should have been had to the gag or bludgeon; and it is singular that a fact so notorious should have escaped the attention of your city reporter, who might have easily satisfied himself of its accuracy by applying to the official quarters.

## IRELAND.

**THE PRINCE OF WALES.**—His Royal Highness proceeded to Carton, the residence of the Duke of Leinster, on Saturday. Shortly after his arrival he planted some trees on Prince of Wales Island, which is situated on the beautiful lake in the demesne. In the evening the front windows of Maynooth College were illuminated, and most of the houses in the town, and a grand display of fireworks took place. The Prince attended Divine service in Maynooth Church on Sunday morning, and afterwards visited the college, accompanied by his Grace the Duke of Leinster.

**THE REV. PATRICK LAVELLE AND LORD ORANMORE.**—The Rev. Patrick Lavelle, whose name has been frequently before the public of late, brought an action, at Galway, against Lord Oranmore for libel. The libel was published in a letter to the *Times*, Lord Oranmore strongly animadverting on the character of Mr. Lavelle, charging him with stirring up the people to agrarian outrage and murder at Partry, accusing him also of being turned out of France for disorderly conduct, and asserting, further, that he was a disloyal subject of her Majesty. Nominally, the verdict was in favour of Mr. Lavelle; really, it was a victory for Lord Oranmore, the jury finding for the plaintiff 61. damages and 61. costs.

## THE PROVINCES.

**A MAD OX.**—A few days since an ox, belonging to a butcher of Farncombe, becoming infuriated, rushed through the streets. When near the Angel Hotel it ran at two children, knocked them both down, and gored one fearfully in the forehead. The screams of the poor child, and the alarming cries of the spectators, seemed to have rendered the animal still more infuriated. It proceeded down the High-street, clearing everything in its progress to the old railway station, where an effort was made to check it. A M. Miles stationed himself near the platform, with the object of turning the animal back. The beast made a rush at him, precipitated him on to the line, and then rolled over his body. The poor fellow was taken up immediately in a fearful state. The animal continued at his mad pace through Farncombe, and eventually ran to the cricket-green at Broadwater, where his horns became entangled in the wire-fencing which surrounds the place, and he was shot.

**SUPPOSED CHILD-MURDER BY GIPSIES.**—Yesterday week a rumour was prevalent in Rotherham that a number of gipsies had murdered one of their infants by cutting off its head. In consequence of that report sixteen gipsies (men, women, and children) were taken into custody whilst passing through Rotherham. A lad about twelve years of age named Newbutt had seen a male gipsy near the encampment with the body of an infant child in one hand, whilst in the other he held the child's head. Newbutt was taken in the evening to the Rotherham Police Court, and out of the sixteen gipsies he selected one who gave the name of William Bosvill as being the man he had seen with the child's head in one hand and the body in the other. The whole gang were interrogated, but nothing could be gleaned from them to corroborate the statement of the boy. Their answers were vague and unsatisfactory respecting the number of children they had amongst them, and the man Bosvill was, consequently, detained in custody; but, on further investigation, nothing appeared to warrant his detention, and he was therefore discharged.

**ENORMOUS REVENUE FRAUDS.**—At the Castle of Exeter yesterday week Mr. William Dawton, paper-manufacturer, of Exwick, pleaded guilty to a charge of defrauding the revenue by having altered the writing on certain parcels of paper, and introduced other paper into them not charged with duty. It was stated that the indictment contained eleven counts, charging the accused with frauds to the amount of £18,800. Mr. Sparke, solicitor, pleaded guilty, on behalf of defendant, to the first count, under which it had been agreed by the Inland Revenue to accept a judgment for £1400.

**SHOCKING INHUMANITY.**—On Monday, at the Dewsbury Petty Sessions, the Bench were engaged in investigating a charge of shocking brutality to a child by its father. The child, a girl not six years of age, was brought into court by its mother. The right arm and left thigh were crippled in consequence of their not having been set after being broken by the father some time ago. Its face was bound up with linen cloth, and the appearance of the little sufferer was that of a child not three years old. The father, Alfred Shepley, a labourer, was charged with kicking it on the face on Saturday, the 20th ult., whereby he had caused a wound which entirely penetrated the left cheek. The evidence showed that Shepley went home on the afternoon of the 20th ult. in a state of partial intoxication, and seeing the little girl playing on the floor of the kitchen, deliberately kicked her on the face with his iron-shod boot. A surgeon said the child's left cheek was entirely cut through, the wound being rather over two inches in length. The child he knew had been grossly ill-treated since its birth. On examining its body he found that both the right arm and left thigh had been broken, and that they had never received surgical attention. The clothes of the child when it was brought to him were stiff with blood. It appeared that the child had been born before the marriage of its parents. There was proof that it had been grossly neglected by its mother also. The mother, who behaved in a very flippant and unfearing manner in court, was severely censured by the Bench; and her husband was committed to the Wakefield House of Correction for six calendar months, with hard labour, and ordered, at the expiration of that term, to find sureties for his good behaviour for another six months.

**KILLED BY LIGHTNING.**—A severe thunderstorm visited the East Riding of Yorkshire on Saturday. At Esk, a village three miles from Beverley, a man named Patrick and three of his children were engaged in a field hoeing turnips. The sought refuge from the rain under a wide-spreading tree. There the whole party were struck by lightning. Patrick, his son Joseph, aged nine, and his daughter Bessy, aged thirteen, were killed on the spot. The third child, a girl, aged twelve, was stunned, and lay in a state of insensibility for some time. On recovering her senses she was able to crawl on her hands and knees to a neighbouring house and inform the inmates of what had happened.

**MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.**—A sad accident occurred at Plymouth on Monday afternoon, by which a young woman and a girl lost their lives. A boat had been hired to proceed to a steamer, and when on the way a gust of wind caught the sail, upsetting the boat and throwing the five persons on board into the water. Of these Ellen Baker, a little girl, and a young woman named Brown, sank at once, and were seen no more; the others were fortunately rescued. Two of those saved owed their deliverance, in a great measure, to the much-decried crinolines. What makes the catastrophe the more melancholy is the fact that the young woman Brown was to have been married in a few days.

**STEALING GOVERNMENT LEAD.**—At the Portsmouth Police Court, on Wednesday, a system of pilfering Government lead was exposed, which, if report is to be relied on, has been carried on for a length of time and to a considerable extent. Six persons in the employ of Mr. Smith, contractor for Government works at Portsmouth, were concerned. Three of the six—Oldfield, foreman of works; Floyd, tin-keeper; and Merwood, labourer—were discharged, after considerable deliberation on the part of the magistrates. The other prisoners—Lamb, mason, and Knight and Maloney, labourers—were committed for trial at the ensuing Quarter Sessions of the borough. In the voluminous evidence adduced, one of the prisoners committed is stated to have told the other, when he made a remark that if he did not look out he would find himself in gaol, that it "was no harm to rob the Crown; it was not like robbing outside the yard; but to rob the Crown was nothing." Bail was accepted on behalf of the prisoners, themselves in £100, and two sureties in £50 each. On obtaining sureties they were all three released.

**THE LAST OF AN OLD CUSTOM.**—From time immemorial Alnwick Fair, which is held on the last Monday in July, has been proclaimed on the Sunday evening at the Market Cross by the bailiff of the lord of the manor and his officers, when the representatives of the different townships, owing suit and service to the lord, presented themselves, armed with old-fashioned swords, and grotesque halberds, and battle-axes, for the purpose of protecting the town and keeping watch and ward during the night at the different approaches to the town, to prevent any surprise or incursion from our treacherous neighbours the Scots. Previously, the parties met in the courtyard of the castle, to which the public were freely admitted, and to all refreshments, in the shape of wine and strongale, were liberally distributed, and some excess was not unusual as the result. Some months ago a memorial was presented to the Duke of Northumberland, who is lord of the manor and borough of Alnwick, signed by the magistrates and other inhabitants of the town, requesting him to use means for the abolition of the ceremony, and a resolution was accordingly issued to the effect that the "refreshments" would be stopped, though the other portions of this ancient custom, including the watch and ward, with battle-axe and broadsword, would be retained.

## EXPERIMENTS AT SHOEBOURNNESS.

SOME interesting experiments were conducted at Shoeburyness on Tuesday, under the superintendence of the Iron Plate Commission, upon two new kinds of targets, built up to resemble a portion of an iron-plated frigate's broadside. One target was sent in to be experimented upon by Mr. Fairbairn. This consisted of four plates five inches thick. The peculiarity of this target was that there was no wooden backing to the armour plating, for the Commission desired to ascertain how far it is possible, by a slight increase in the thickness of the plates, to do away entirely with the weight and expense of the mass of timber beyond them. Again, in nearly all cases where plates have been fractured by shot the crack has commenced from one of the rivet-holes. There were none of these in Mr. Fairbairn's target. The plates were fastened to what in an iron frigate would be its outer skin, which, in the case of the target, was represented by wrought iron three-quarters of an inch thick. From the inner side of this were rib-girders much of the same kind as the iron ribs of a frigate would be. From the "skin" the rivets were let into the plates like topped screws, penetrating a little more than halfway through the five-inch armour.

First, a flat-headed steel shot, about 1lb. in weight, was fired against it to test the quality of the iron. This made only a dint of from a quarter to one-third of an inch in depth. Two of Armstrong's 4lb. shell, filled with sand, were next discharged point blank at a distance of 100 yards. They also dented the iron to the depth of some three-quarters of an inch, but otherwise seemed to have but little effect, except upon the rivets of the angle-iron inside the sheathing, which were apparently somewhat started. Two flat-headed 40-pounder steel shot, fired at the same range, produced more effect. Their indentation was quite an inch a half, if not more, and the rivet heads holding the armour-plates were evidently shaken, though apparently they held as firmly as ever. The 100-pounder Armstrong was next tried at 200 yards, with a shell filled with sand. This broke one of the angle-irons of the inner sheathing, made a deep dint, and started some of the smaller rivets, yet, on the whole, surprisingly little damage was done, and practically the target seemed as strong as ever. A solid 100-pounder shot was then tried, and this struck the centre of the mark, starting the plates and curving them outwards at some of their joints. The effect of two shots from a solid 68 pounder at 100 yards shook the armour-plates still more, starting them from the skin to which they were bolted, and dinting them through their entire substance considerably. A 200lb. shot was then fired at 200 yards range. This ponderous missile not only made a very deep dint where it struck, but bulged the whole target in, shaking all the plates loose, and breaking some of the screws which held them. Still, however, no plate gave way, nor had any of them been detached. The last shot fired was with a 100-pounder, at 800 yards, and the effect of this was final. By the force of the concussion the upper plate, with one of the centre small ones, was completely detached, and came crashing down, leaving those that still remained in a very shaky and precarious condition. It was, however, considered by all on the ground to have withstood the rude assaults it had received extremely well.

The next experiments were made upon a target invented by Mr. Roberts. This was the very reverse in principle from Mr. Fairbairn's, inasmuch as the thickness of the iron plates was diminished while the timber-backing was increased. Mr. Fairbairn desired to show how shotproof frigates might be made of iron only, while Mr. Roberts's target was designed to prove that wooden ships could be as easily rendered shotproof as if specially built for the purpose. The back of this target was formed of wrought iron three-eighths of an inch thick. To this were fastened iron T plates, which on a frigate would run along the vessel's side fore and aft. Between these were fitted oak beams nine inches square, which, being all tight-caulked, held the plates firmly in their position, so as to prevent lateral bend, and enable them to resist the maximum pressure due to their strength. Over this again comes another layer of beams and T plates, placed vertically, fitted in the same way, and bolted firmly to the ship's side. Over all this come the armour plates. Each of these latter are three inches thick and two feet wide, and made in an angular form, something like a wide shaped letter V. All the joints are planed so as to ensure accuracy of fit, and thus, when a ship's side was covered with these plates, the alternate angular projections and recesses would resemble in shape, on a small scale, the ordinary ridge and furrow roofing used in glass buildings. Where the longitudinal joints occur a recess is cut in the plates, into which is fitted an iron rib 6 inches wide and 4½ deep, the outside rib being also angular. These joint ribs are fastened through with 1½-inch bolts, while the V-shaped armour-plates are secured by 9-inch bolts, 18 inches apart. Each armour-plate rises from the side of the ship to an angle of about one foot in height, the face of each angle being also a foot in depth. On this system, Mr. Roberts contends, a ship may be built of the same strength, costing only one-fifth of the money required for a ship constructed wholly of iron, and being only one third of the latter's weight. The target experimented on at Shoeburyness was built on this principle, and was a fine piece of workmanship. Mr. Roberts and Mr. Burn, C.E. (who is associated with Mr. Roberts in his invention), had, however, committed the serious fault of having their target made too small. It was only 6 ft. by 4 ft.; and, consequently, as all the shots were aimed low, they struck almost on the same spots, which wanted the surrounding support a larger target would have naturally afforded. So far the test of strength was taken at a disadvantage to the invention. The first shot fired at it with a 1lb. flat-headed steel ball, to test the iron, struck upon the angular face of one of the armour-plates. Yet, in spite of this, it apparently made as deep a dint as a similar projectile had made in the flat upright plates of Mr. Fairbairn's target. Two 40lb. shells, filled with sand, were then fired from an Armstrong at 100 yards, but did no perceptible damage. A flat-headed 40-pounder which was next fired struck one of the rib-joint pieces we have spoken of between the angles, and broke it. It, however, still remained firm in its place, and a 100-pounder Armstrong shell, at 200 yards, did no apparent damage. Not so, however, with a solid shot at the

same range, which came full upon the edge of the angle of the centre plate, inflicting a deep dint, and slightly fracturing the plate itself. The next, a solid 68-pounder, hit full upon the same joint-rib which had been struck and broken before. It split the rib joint at its outer rivet-hole, breaking off the end of it entirely. Still, however, the target was quite firm apparently. The next 68-pounder fired struck full upon the extreme lower edge of the mark with such force as to shatter the wooden frame which supported it, and turned the target completely over on its face. It was evident, therefore, that striking on the angle of the plate did not, in this case at least, at all tend to make it glance off and so diminish the concussion.

The experiments were resumed on Monday as soon as Mr. Roberts's target was again fixed on its framing. The first trial was made with the 100-pounder Armstrong shunt-gun, with solid shot, at 800 yards' range. Three shots were fired at the target from this, but from the extreme smallness of the object (four feet by six), and the high and very variable wind blowing at the time, all three of them missed. The experiments were continued with a 200lb. solid shot, fired from an Armstrong at the close range of 20 yards. It was the concussion produced by this ponderous missile that did such mischief to Mr. Fairbairn's target, and before the stroke of this it seemed almost certain the little target of Mr. Roberts would go down at once in fragments. Strange to say, however, the shot did no damage except to cause an indentation of 1½ inch, and starting some of the upper fastenings which secured the edge of the plate to the target. The second shot of the same weight struck one of the upper joint ribs between the plates, and broke it in three places, detaching one piece; but still the damage done was immaterial to the plates themselves, though some of the fastenings were then very loose, and the centre angle plate had slipped, and was almost half detached. The firing at this, therefore, was considered sufficient as regarded a test of the strength of the plates, and, above all, of their backing up with timber.

The general result of the experiments has shown that the 5-inch iron plates of Mr. Fairbairn's target fastened to a ¾-inch skin were perfectly able, as far as the plates were concerned, to withstand for a very long time what was, in fact, a concentrated fire from the heaviest and most powerful ordnance in the world. It also showed that the thinner plates of three inches, rolled into an angulated form, and presenting at all points an inclined face to the blow of the shot, were equally well able to withstand a missile that, under other circumstances, would fracture a 4½-inch plate, and this was the object the inventor wished to demonstrate. The backing of the target, even after all the pounding it received, was still perfect, though only 18 in. thick, and had this been the hull of a ship, it would apparently, even if submerged, have remained quite watertight. The ribs which formed the backing to the skin inside the plates of Mr. Fairbairn's target were, perhaps, a little too weak for the enormous resistance they were expected to exert. This, however, is a very minor fault, and one which it was only possible to ascertain from actual practice. The weak point common to both targets, and to every other description of iron armour plate that has ever been devised is the mode of fastening, either to the target or the ship's side. Every bolt-hole in a plate is a source of weakness, as from them all fractures take their rise. The expedients which have been devised to remedy this, by having tapped screws at the back of the plate, are, perhaps, better for preventing fractures; but they are certainly not better adapted for what is the ultimate object of all these fastenings—viz., securing the plate to the ship's side. On the whole, however, the experiments at Shoeburyness against these iron targets were regarded as about the most satisfactory which have yet taken place there.

**OUTRAGES IN POLAND.**—A letter from Warsaw, dated July 24, gives the following painful details of an alleged outrage by a Russian Governor at Radom:—"Among the Proconsuls intrusted with the sway of the different districts of this unhappy country, General Count O. permann distinguishes himself at Radom by his energy in petty vexatiousness and utter disregard of law and right. Enraged at a charitable performance by some boys before the house of an unpopular employé, he ordered troops, notwithstanding the boys dispersed at the first summons, to clear the streets of the town. As there was no crowd anywhere, the brave Russian soldiers rushed upon the passers-by. Using their butt-ends, they attacked every one who came in their way, without any regard for age or sex; and, not content with plundering and stripping them of all they had on them, they even entered the houses in their eagerness for spoil. Several persons who were traversing the town in carriages and cars were drawn out of them, ill-used, wounded, and plundered of everything they had about them. Thus M. Grabowski, a landed proprietor, was taken out of his carriage, and both he and his coachman, after being stripped of all they had on them, were wounded and dragged through the streets. Dr. Brudzinski was wounded whilst returning from a professional visit. Two travellers, Budzynski and Korycki, were attacked and wounded at the hotel where they had alighted. The same occurred to the district employés Russoski and the confectioneer Grub. Lisowski, a student in the lower classes, and the boy Kuzewski, son of a Government employé, are so severely wounded that their recovery is despaired of. The day after this wanton outrage several notable citizens went to the Governor to ask him the reasons for such conduct. He received them with his usual Germano-Muscovite rudeness, and declared to them that rebels have nothing less to expect. In spite of this declaration a complaint has been sent him; but what justice can be expected from a higher authority which sets the example for such brutal abuse of power and force?"

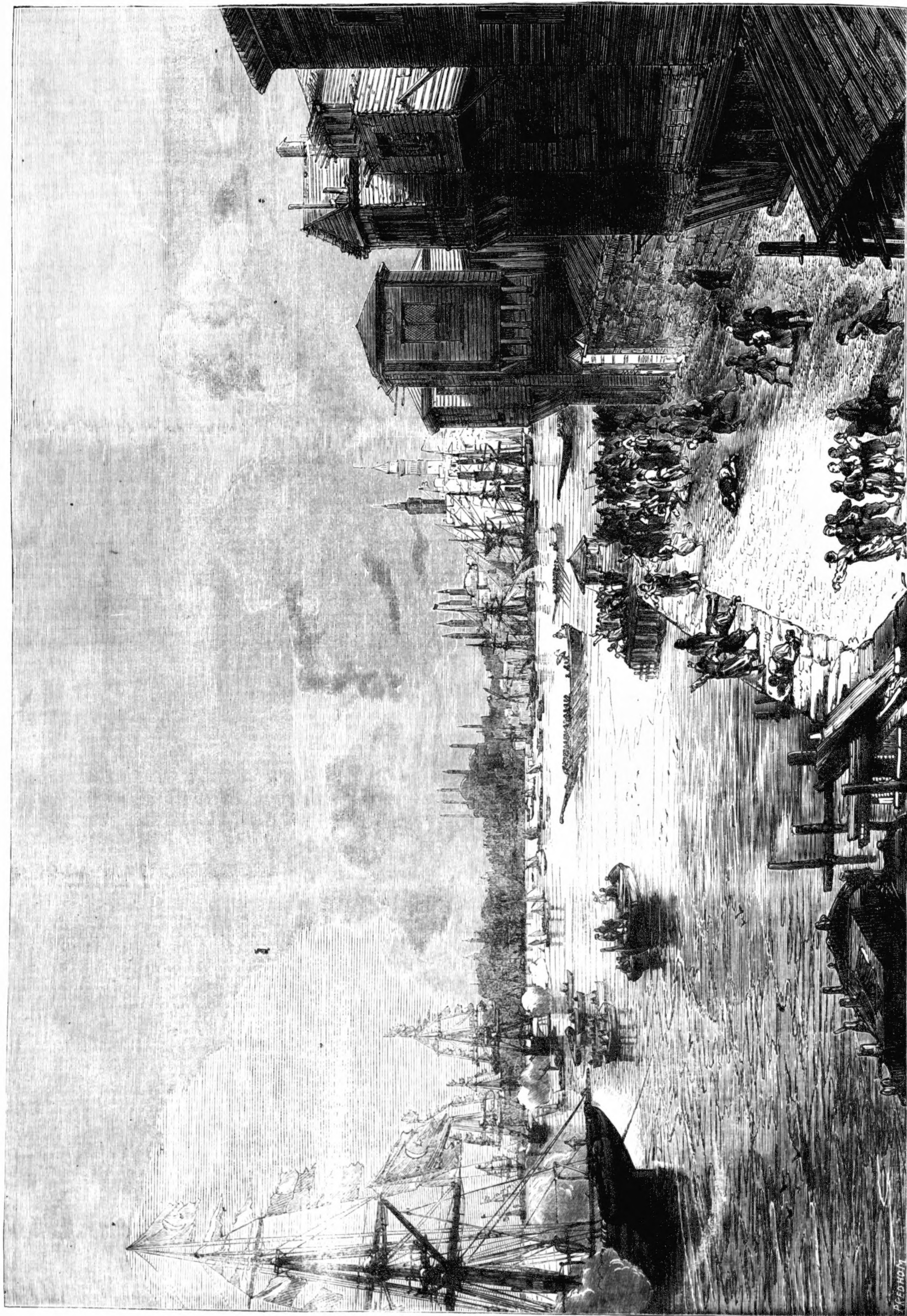
**THE NEWS OF SAN LUCIA.**—A singular petition has been addressed to the Lieutenant-General of Naples by the Clarissa nuns of San Lucia, at Potenza. They ask permission to retain their house and property for their lives, and beg the Lieutenant-General not to regard them as opposed to the glorious state of things at which Italy now rejoices, since they have always desired and favoured it. In fact—1. In the gloomy times of the feodality of Ferdinand of Bourbon they bore witness against him. 2. They have carefully preserved the documents of the Association for Promoting the Unity of Italy. 3. They contributed to the loan raised in Garibaldi's name before his landing at Marsala. 4. They gave 250 ducats (£40) to support the insurrection in Lucania (Calabria). 5. They were the first to raise the Italian flag at Potenza. 6. They subscribed to the fund for presenting a sword of honour to Garibaldi. 7. They belong to illustrious families of Italy, and several of them remember with pride that their husbands were massacred in fighting for liberty. This curious document was signed by the Abbess Maria-Theresa-Lancelotte and all the inmates of the convent.

**ANOTHER DEATH THROUGH CRINOLINE.**—On Saturday an inquest was held before Mr. Langham, Deputy Coroner for Westminster, at No. 20, Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square, on the body of Mrs. Elizabeth Broadhurst, aged thirty-two years. Mr. Broadhurst, her husband, deposed that he came home about ten o'clock on Wednesday week, and found Mrs. Broadhurst writing letters in the drawing-room. He directly left her and went up stairs. Ten minutes afterwards he was startled by her screams. He ran down to the drawing-room, and discovered her enveloped in flames, and lost no time in seizing upon two hearth-rugs, with which he covered her, and rane violently for assistance. The nurse, housemaid, and butler came up, and by their efforts the burning dress and other garments outside the unfortunate crinoline were extinguished. It was found, however, that the flames had crept underneath the steel-hooped crinoline, where they still burned. He supposed that the deceased must have first ignited her sleeve by reaching over a candle for an envelope, and in consequence of the difficulty arising from the crinoline in putting out the flames quick enough she lost her life. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

**ENGLAND AND BELGIUM.**—The *Belgian Moniteur* of Tuesday contained following note in its official part:—"In consequence of an incident which occurred recently on the subject of the commercial relations existing between Belgium and England, explanations have been entered into between the Belgian Minister in London and her Britannic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Government has reason to be satisfied with the explanations which have been given to it; and there will be no delay in reopening the negotiations to bring about the conclusion of a new treaty in conformity with the interests of both countries."

**COLLISION IN THE BRISTOL CHANNEL.**—The Mary Ann Duffus, barque of Newport, with a cargo of coal for a foreign port, was beating down channel when the man on the lookout called out, "A sail ahead!" Before the vessel's course could have been altered the two ships came into collision. The shock is described as terrific. The Mary Ann Duffus went down with such rapidity that the captain and crew had only just time to jump into the boat and get it adrift before she sank. Time was not even allowed them to push off from the sinking vessel, and the boat was drawn into the vortex. The fate of the mate and one of the crew rose again, and swimming over their lives, were picked up when all but exhausted; but the master and all the others sank to rise no more.





THE SULTAN ABDUL AZIZ PROCEEDING IN HIS CAIQUE TO THE PALACE OF DOLMA BAKTCHÉ.



### THE SULTAN ABDUL AZIZ GOING TO THE SUMMER PALACE OF DOLMA-BAKTCHÉ.

It would almost seem that a new era has commenced for Turkey by the advent of the Sultan Abdul Aziz, who, if he continues in the policy which he has so early adopted, may hope to remedy the terrible evils which have accumulated during the feeble rule of his sickly and luxurious brother. The rapidity with which the present Sovereign was installed probably saved the State from factious opposition; and, indeed, it must have been necessary for the Ministers to be continually prepared for the death of Abdul Mejid, since we learn that he sank at last such a complete wreck that it is almost wonderful that his life was preserved so long. At half-past eight he expired, and at eleven o'clock Abdul Aziz went to meet the Ministers, and upon the sofa throne under the gateway of the old palace received the homage of the civil and military dignitaries of the State; and, after having rendered the last respects to the remains of his brother, which had been conveyed to the mausoleum near the mosque of Sultan Selim, the present Ruler of Turkey entered the State caïque in order to proceed to the Summer Palace at Dolma-Baktché, his Imperial residence on the Bosphorus, decorated in the interior by the taste of a French artist. On his passage all the vessels ranged before the palace and saluted with salvos of artillery, at the same dressing their masts and running up their colours.

### THE ARCHBISHOP OF WARSAW.

The struggle of the Poles in Warsaw has been marked, on the one hand, by unnecessary and cruel tyranny, and, on the other, by determined persistence and uncompromising demonstration. Throughout the history of the oppression the clergy have occupied a position both difficult and dangerous, and their sympathy with the people as well as their own decided nationality has required all the influence of their sacred calling to protect them, while in many instances they have suffered the penalty of their patriotism. The stand which they have made has had its effect, however, and, notwithstanding the endeavours of the military Governor to suppress the national chants in the places of worship, the priests continued them with even increased solemnity of meaning, and amidst the emotion of the people. This led at last to an appeal from the Prince-Lieutenant to the Archbishop, desiring him to issue orders directing his clergy to discontinue chanting in the churches those national hymns, the meaning of which seemed to be construed into an opposition to the Government. The Archbishop replied to the letter in a way which did the greatest honour to his patriotism, and in which he declared that to accede to the demands of the Governor would be at once to produce a worse effect than that of continuing the chants; that it would tend to excite the people still further, while at the same time they would at once be turned against the priests, and, personally against himself;

eventually disregarding everything, and even ceasing to observe acts of devotion or to participate in the Christian ordinances, to the great detriment of religion and the public welfare. The clergy justify him in this belief, and say that those priests who have spoken against the chants in some of the churches have been subject

to the indignation of the people. He intimates that these demonstrations will cease when the people have reason to feel confidence in the Government, and that the way in which this may be accomplished may easily be understood. Altogether he declines to interfere in a public ceremony which will not only irritate the national feeling against the Government, but produce an inevitable estrangement between the people and their spiritual instructors to the detriment both of happiness and religion.

### THE KING AND QUEEN OF SIAM.

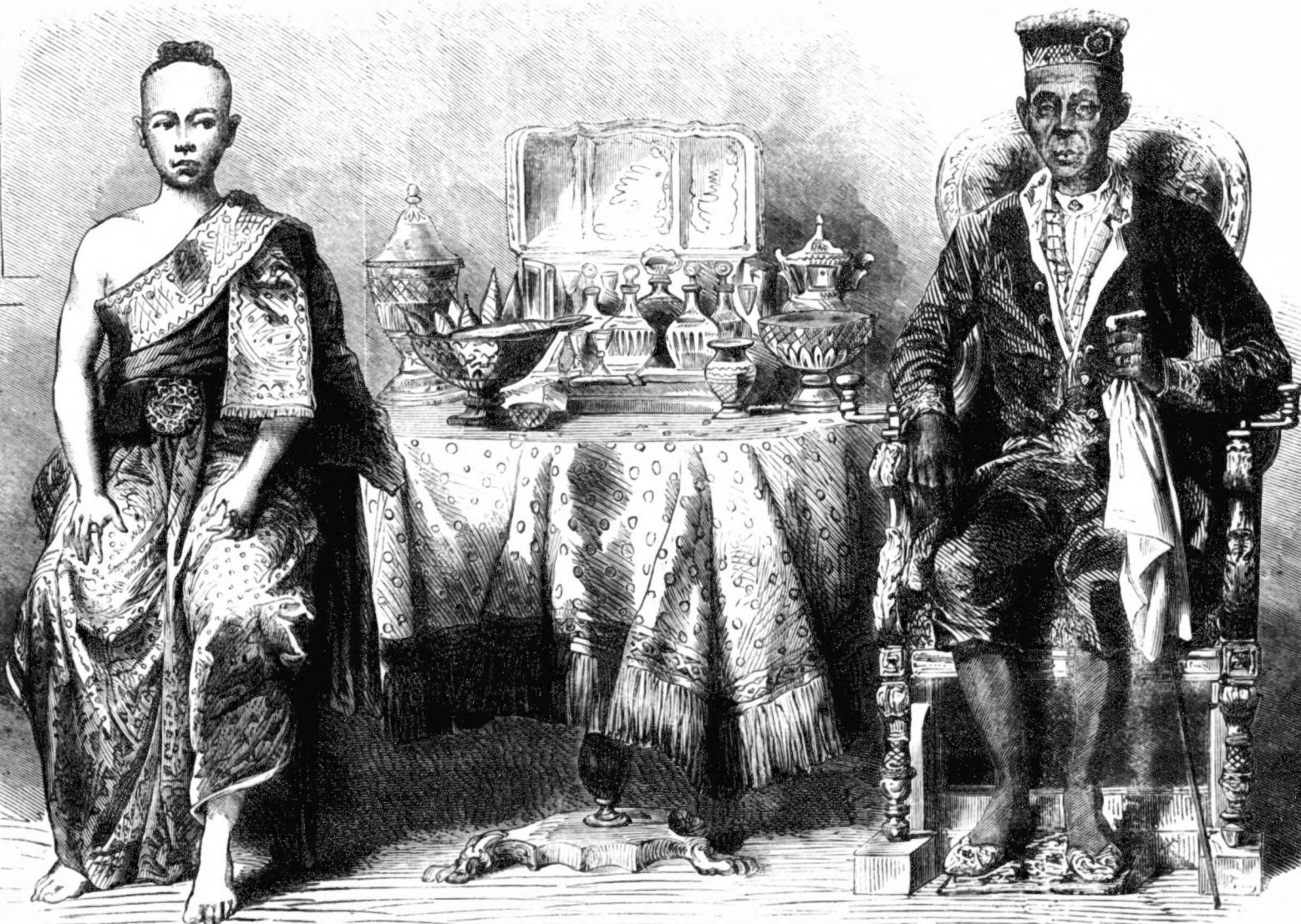
The Siamese visitors are still the great topic of conversation in Paris, and we are enabled to present our readers with the Portraits of the King and Queen, from a photograph sent by them to Napoleon III. The Siamese Sovereigns have paid the Emperor a delicate compliment, inasmuch as they have been taken sitting by a table on which are displayed the various presents which they have received from his Majesty during the last year or two.

The King, Somdetphra-Paramendramaha-Mongkut, is seated on a superb elbow-chair, which was amongst the Imperial presents. The Royal name is certainly less European than the costume, for while his head is decorated with a cap similar to those served out to the pupils of the Marine School, in their training-ship at Greenwich, the coat and waistcoat are as irreproachable as is the white neckerchief confined by a diamond button, which is well matched by the massive rings upon the Royal hand. The legs, however, are national, since they are bare below the knee, and terminate with a pair of richly-embroidered slippers, in the Siamese fashion.

We cannot help imagining that there is something essentially like an old and somewhat canny Scotchman about the countenance of his Majesty (it may be that cap), and that this peculiarity fails to give its full effect to the splendid "Deputy-Lieutenant" sort of garments in which the Royal trunk is enveloped; while the legs are not to be reconciled to European ideas except on the supposition of a foot-tub and a basin of gruel.

The Queen, on the other hand, seems to disregard European innovations; and we should, had we space, pause for a moment to record the deep respect with which we are inspired by the contemplation of a lady who could willingly forego a Parisian wardrobe for the sake of either nationality or convenience. It is useless for our fair readers to suggest that she may have trunks full of fashionable attire up stairs. Had she possessed them, nothing could have induced her to have had her portrait taken without crinoline, of which she evidently knows no more than of military-heeled boots. The display of the foot may, however, be pardoned, considering that it seems to be the Siamese custom to exhibit only one shoulder. Indeed, nothing but the absence of a coiffure prevents the dress of her Siamese Majesty being elegant as well as simple; and we shall doubtless see a modification of it introduced as the latest and sweetest Parisian fashion.

BARON RICASOLI, PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IN ITALY.



THE KING AND QUEEN OF SIAM.—(FROM PHOTOGRAPHS SENT BY THEM TO THE FRENCH EMPEROR.)



# INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 170

CONFUSION.

LAST week the House, in Committee of Supply, had to deal with the estimate for "Civil Contingencies," and it got into such a state of embroilment, excitement, and confusion the like of which has hardly ever been seen before; indeed, it is not too much to say that, but for Mr. Massey's coolness, patience, and thorough knowledge of the forms of the House, the Committee would have got into a jungle of entanglements out of which there would have been no possible escape. Mr. Massey, however, is one of the best Chairmen that ever presided over a Committee. His knowledge of the rules and practice of Parliament is perfect, and his coolness, patience, self-possession, and promptitude are admirable; and it is well that it is so, for none but a skilful steersman, with a quick eye, prompt decision, and great knowledge, could have brought the Committee safely through its difficulties. Much of all this confusion arose from the singular character of this vote. It is a vote for "Civil Contingencies"—i.e., a vote for expenses which may arise, and which, judging from past experience, certainly will occur, but the nature and exact amount of which cannot be ascertained: in short, it is a sort of pocket-money vote. A good and careful paterfamilias in making his calculations for the coming year, can tell what he will require for rent and taxes, what for housekeeping and dress, what for stable expenses, &c.; but he knows very well that beyond these ascertainable sums there will be sundry others not exactly ascertainable; such, for example, as doctors' bills, travelling costs, &c.—in short, "contingencies"—and for these he is obliged to set apart a considerable sum; and so it is with the Government. It first secures a vote for the Army, the Navy, Law and Justice, Education, Science and Art, &c., and then it asks for "contingencies." Now, it is obvious that, whilst all the other estimates can be examined before they are granted, this vote cannot be. All that can be done is to present an account of the expenditure for past years, that some approximate estimate may be formed of what will be wanted for the next; and this the Government does. "See here!" it says, "last year we spent £70,000 (or whatever the sum may have been), and this is the way in which we spent it; and now we ask for the same sum again. This is not an estimate, but an account, and so you cannot strike out any of the items; but, if you think that we have been extravagant, you may deduct something from next year's allowance." This was the state of the case; but the Committee could with difficulty be made to understand it, and insisted upon disallowing some of the items of this bill, and hence much of the confusion that arose. Mr. Massey explained, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Home Secretary, and Lord Palmerston reiterated the explanation; but for a time it was all in vain. So excited was the Committee, and so angry about some of these items of account, that they would listen to no reason. Mr. Bernal Osborne was the leader of the Opposition. It is observable that since he uttered "his wild shriek of liberty," when he escaped from the trammels of office, he has been very ambitious for this post; and some say that he has been more zealous and more ambitious within the last week or two, since certain Ministerial rearrangements have been on foot. However this may be, he was on this occasion very fierce, boisterous, belligerent, and unreasonable. The items which most moved the ire of this patriotic Reformer were £944 for the expenses of the Fine Art Commission, and £512 1s. 8d. for fees paid on Lord Brougham's patent of remainder. The noble Lord's patent originally provided that the title should descend to his male issue; but Lord Brougham has no son, and, in accordance with his wish, her Majesty has lately granted a patent of remainder in favour—falling male issue—of his Lordship's brother; and this new patent, it was determined by her Majesty, should be granted free of cost. Well, it was these two sums, but especially the latter, that excited the wrath of Mr. Bernal Osborne; and it was the title battle against them which led to the confusion noticed. First Mr. Osborne insisted upon treating the account of the last year as an estimate for the future, and moved that both these sums be disallowed, but here was at once stopped by the Chairman. "The hon. member," said Mr. Massey, "cannot make such a motion as that, as the money has already been voted and paid. All that the hon. member can do is to move that a certain sum be struck off the sum now proposed." "Well, then, I will just propose that £512 1s. 8d. be struck off, and then I will move that £944 be disallowed." But here, again, he was stopped. "The hon. member cannot," replied the Chairman, "do that; for, if the House refuse to cut off the smaller sum, it will not be competent for the hon. member to move the disallowance of the larger." And then there arose such a scene of babblement, confusion, and bewilderment as surely was never seen in legislative chamber before. The moment one speaker sat down, half a dozen other members sprang on to their feet, and sometimes we had three or four up at once, and kept up in spite of Mr. Massey's reiterated cries of "Order!" The speaker in possession addressed the House upon the point of order; anon another dilated with passionate energy upon the enormity of paying the fees upon Brougham's patent; whilst the next, amidst peals of laughter, criticised the doings of the Commissioners of Fine Arts. "Is Massey right?" "These commissioners ought to be abolished." "What a shame that the country should pay old Brougham's fees!" Such were the discordant elements which hissed and bubbled—amidst cheers, and laughter, and groans, and cries of "Divide! divide!"—before us as we looked down as into a cauldron from our seat above. But the climax, we think, came when Sir Morton Peto, seizing the opportunity of a lull, begged to ask the Government "who Pepple, King of Bonny, was that he should have been paid, per account, the sum of £7673;" and again when Mr. Dillwyn suddenly jumped up and inquired about a sum of £69 for "altering the 29th canon of the Church of England." And so the confusion went on for an hour or more. But such scenes as this, happily, must have an end; lungs are not really made of leather—not even the tough lungs of lawyers. The longest wind fails at last, and passion is, proverbially, not enduring; and so at last the members got exhausted, the confusion resolved into order, and under the skilful guidance of the Chairman we got into the right track, and ultimately divided, first upon the proposition to cut off the larger sum; and, this being lost, secondly, upon the smaller amount. But though we thus divided—and, no objects being mentioned, we were strictly in order in dividing—the anomaly remained. The Committee had divided upon a proposition to cut off certain sums from next year's expenditure, because in the opinion of certain members certain sums had been misspent last year. The anomaly was amply explained, but the Opposition would listen to no reason.

## A WORD FOR A GREAT MAN.

Lord Brougham was made a peer in due course when he took the Great Seal in 1830. The patent of peerage was made out in the usual way. His title was to descend to his male issue; but the noble Lord has no male issue, and last year he applied to Lord Palmerston to ask the Crown to grant him a patent of remainder in favour of his brother. The noble Premier listened to his request. Her gracious Majesty, "in consequence of Lord Brougham's great services to his country," acted upon the advice of her Minister and granted the remainder, and granted it free of expense. Now, in all this there is nothing so discreditable to the parties concerned as Mr. Bernal Osborne would have us believe? In the first place, let it be noted that to pay the fees on patents granted for eminent services is not unprecedented. On the contrary, as the Chancellor of the Exchequer showed, there are numerous precedents. Lord Hardinge, Lord Raglan, Lord Canning, Lord Elphinstone, all had the fees in their patents paid out of the public funds. And is not Lord Brougham as deserving of this favour and distinction as any of these noble Lords were? "Yea, verily!" will, we are persuaded, be the answer of the great majority of the public. It is now over sixty years since this great man first buckled on his armour to fight against the enemies of freedom, progress, and education; and since then what labours has he undergone—what victories has he achieved. It may be

wrong to pay any fees upon patents of nobility; but surely it was ungrateful, ungenerous, and in bad taste to single out the case of Lord Brougham from all others on which to fight this question; and in the House of Commons too—in that place where he gained some of his noblest triumphs! Annually we have bills and motions for a second reform in Parliament; but who was it that conquered the first Reform Bill? Every year we vote large sums for the education of the people; but consider what Henry Brougham has done for this cause. One night last week we had a question before the House about the Portuguese slave trade; but it ought never to be forgotten that it is in no small measure owing to the energy and the eloquence of Brougham that we are not now ourselves engaged in that traffic. And here let it be remarked that all this squabbling and indignation was about the paltry sum of £147; for of the £512 paid for fees all but £147 went back into the Exchequer. Surely, it was not worth while to make such a stir and to wound this distinguished man, now in his eighty-third year, for such a paltry sum.

## LORD ROBERT MONTAGU ON THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

On Friday night Supply was closed; on Saturday the Appropriation Bill was brought in, on Monday it was read a second time, on Tuesday went through Committee, and on Wednesday passed. This rapid passage is in accordance with all precedent and custom: in short, there seems to be no valid reason for delay. The money votes have already been discussed and settled, and this bill is only a formal appropriation of them to their particular objects. But Lord Robert Montagu thinks otherwise. He would have the bill printed and circulated amongst the members for a week before the second reading, thus lengthening the Session seven days certainly; and Mr. Henley maintains that every vote may be discussed again in the passage of this bill, and at every stage. Now there are at least six stages of a bill and some 250 votes. A pleasant prospect this for the end of a Session. Lord Robert, however, is so enamoured with it that he wanted to realise it at once; and hence his motion that the second reading be postponed for a week. A division on this question would have immortalised Lord Robert, for there has been no division upon this annual bill within the memory of man. Unfortunately, however, he suffered himself to be overruled by his friends. They thought, no doubt, that a week added to the Session was too great a price to pay for his canonisation.

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 26.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

On the order of the day for considering the Commons' reasons for disagreeing with certain amendments of the Lords on the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill.

The LORD CHANCELLOR begged that the decision to be pronounced on that bill might be founded not on party motives but on the intrinsic merits or demerits of the measure. He denied that the appointment of a Chief Judge could be termed "a job." The appointment would remedy the present confusion of administrative and judicial duties, by introducing an officer to superintend the administrative part of the business, and at the same time to exercise a jurisdiction partly appellate and partly original. By such an appointment, also, justice would be rendered more quickly and more cheaply, and the bandying of suitors from one court to another would be avoided. To render, however, these reforms complete, and the Court of Bankruptcy self-sufficient, he contended that the Court should be one of appeal, pointing out the fallacies of the arguments that the number of appeals in bankruptcy being comparatively few, therefore no Judge of Appeal was necessary. Certificates, as tests of character, would be made of some value if a Judge were appointed, as they would be distinguished by a uniformity of decision. In conclusion, he objected to the appeals in bankruptcy being referred to the Lords Justices of Appeal, as those functionaries had quite as much as they could do without being saddled with additional burdens; and he begged their Lordships to agree with the House of Commons in their rejection of their Lordships' amendments.

LORD CRANWORTH did not object to the series of abstract propositions stated by the Lord Chancellor, but would have preferred to have heard it proved that the officer proposed to be appointed was necessary. Having explained the mode of proceeding in bankruptcy, he contended that the present Commissioners were in every way qualified to act as Judges, and protested against the appointment of an unnecessary Judge for the purpose of hearing appeals. The bill was almost silent as to the jurisdiction of the Chief Judge, and dwelt far too much in generalities, and not enough in particulars. He believed the appointment of a Chief Judge was not necessary, and was therefore objectionable.

LORD CHELMSFORD, having replied to the insinuations of the Lord Chancellor against the Select Committee, and vindicated the decisions of that Committee as frank and entirely removed from party motives, stated his opinion that the appointment of a Chief Judge was unnecessary, as the duties which he would have to do were efficiently performed by those to whom they were now intrusted. He related the assertion that the Lord Justices of Appeal were overburdened with work by quoting the number of appeal cases heard by them, and denied that the proposed changes would be less expensive than the system now in use, for he believed that they would tend to increased cost by augmenting the number of appeals. Lord Chelmsford then showed that the original jurisdiction which the bill pretended to confer on the Chief Judge was nothing but a pretence for making an appointment, and therefore hoped the House would adhere to its amendments, and spare the public the expense of a most unnecessary appointment.

LORD WENLEYDALE agreed with the opinions expressed by Lords Cranworth and Chelmsford.

The LORD CHANCELLOR having replied to the objections of Lords Cranworth and Chelmsford,

The House divided on the question that this House do insist on its amendments as far as relates to the office, power, and duties of the Chief Judge, when the numbers were:—

Contents	80
Non-contents	46

Their Lordships' amendment was therefore adhered to. A discussion then ensued as to whether their Lordships should insist upon their amendment with respect to the creditors' assignees. On the question being put, the "Non-contents" were declared to have it; so that the Commons' amendment on this point was agreed to. After further discussion the other amendments of the Commons were agreed to, and a Committee was appointed to prepare a statement of the reasons why their Lordships had insisted on their own amendment.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and their Lordships adjourned.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE SLAVE TRADE.

On the motion that the Speaker leave the chair, that the House might go again into a Committee of Supply.

Mr. Buxton called attention to the increase of the Cuban slave trade, and to the importance of supplementing the exertions of the naval force on the African coast by other measures, especially by the reappointment of a Consul at Mozambique.

Mr. CAVE remarked upon the equivocal conduct of France in relation to the conveyance of Indian coolies to the Island of Reunion.

Mr. H. BARKLEY made a few observations upon the feeling of the Portuguese Government regarding the residence of a British Consul at Mozambique.

Sir J. FAKINGTON said he had lately seen a naval officer returned from Africa who stated that the slave trade was flourishing on the Mozambique coast.

Mr. DONSON observed that Cuba was the great support of the slave trade, which could be easily suppressed there if the Spanish authorities pleased.

Mr. GREGORY trusted that the Emperor of the French might be induced to co-operate with us in adopting a more vigorous course of action for putting down this nefarious trade, which was carried on, he said, under the American flag, in Yankee ships, fitted out by Yankee capital, manned by Yankee skippers, and was connived at by bribed Yankee authorities. The Government, he thought, might now, with more prospect of success, renew their appeal to America to join in vigorous action against the traffic.

Mr. W. FORSTER, Mr. HOPE, and Mr. KINNARD continued the discussion. Lord PALMERSTON said the House could not too frequently declare its condemnation of this abominable traffic. He lamented to say that of late years there had been a relapse in the sentiments of our neighbours on this subject. He noticed the indications of this relapse on the part of France through the ascendancy of colonial interests in the French councils. Arrangements had been made, and recently a treaty had been concluded, with the Government of France, by which the French authorities were entitled to bring coolies from India, as free labourers, to their colonies. The crime of the slave trade, no doubt, existed to a considerable extent; but it was almost entirely for

the supply of Cuba. Her Majesty's Government had remonstrated time after time with that of Spain on the subject. They were met by assurances that orders had been sent out to the authorities at Cuba, and that there was every disposition to fulfil the treaty. Still this most disgraceful traffic continued. It was true it was carried on mainly under the American flag, and remonstrances had been made with the Government of the United States against this prostitution of their flag; but all our proposals for joint action to renew our efforts, and there was ground for hope, in existing circumstances, that the spirit of the North might prevail in the councils of the United States. Portugal had no interest in keeping up the slave trade; quite the reverse, for she had possessions in Africa. The appointment of a Consul at Mozambique, he believed, would have very little effect in checking the trade; but the subject would be considered, the Government being most anxious to complete the noble part taken by this country.

#### THE SHIPPING INTEREST.

Mr. LINDSAY called attention to the report of the Merchant Shipping Committee of 1859-60, expressing his regret that the Government had not introduced in the present Session measures to carry the more important recommendations of the Committee into effect. He urged that the Government should take more direct measures to induce foreign States to adopt the principle of reciprocity towards the shipping of this country.

After some remarks by Mr. CAVE, Mr. M. GIBBON replied to Mr. Lindsay. The Government, he said, had omitted on no fitting occasion to claim from foreign countries full reciprocity for our shipping. But there was a great deal of misapprehension in this country as to the extent to which reciprocity was withheld by foreign countries. As regarded direct trade, we had reciprocity with every country in the world, and some countries admitted our ships upon equal terms to their coasting trade. In spite of the difficulties of which the shipping interest complained, they were not incompatible with a considerable increase of British tonnage. He believed that the repeal of the Navigation Laws had not only done no harm to our shipping interest, but great good.

#### SUPPLY.—THE NAVY.

The House then went into Committee of Supply upon the remaining Estimates, resuming the discussion of the Navy Supplementary Estimate for iron ships.

A very energetic remonstrance by Mr. Lindsay against the vote and the expenditure upon these vessels called up Lord PALMERSTON, who declared that he had distinct and positive information, upon which he could rely, that the French had six iron vessels all at, ten building (which could be completed in a year and a half or two years), and eleven floating batteries, some of them powerful vessels, making an aggregate of twenty-seven iron-clad ships.

LORD C. PAGET stated the names and localities of the vessels, and added that other nations were increasing their iron navies in a corresponding ratio—Austria, Italy, and Spain having eight of these vessels built or building.

Mr. LINDSAY said, after these statements, differing so much from the information he had received from the highest authority in France, he should offer no opposition to the vote.

The vote was agreed to, and the Committee then proceeded to consider the remaining Army Estimates—the Army excess of expenditure and the votes for the Militia and Volunteer Corps which were likewise agreed to, and ordered to be reported.

#### EAST INDIA LOAN.—WAYS AND MEANS.

The report on the East India Loan was brought up, and a bill was ordered to be brought in.

The report of the Committee was also brought up and agreed to. In a Committee of Ways and Means a sum was voted out of the Consolidated Fund and the surplus of Ways and Means.

### SATURDAY, JULY 27.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

On the report of Supply, Lord H. LENOX objected to the carrying out of a plan which was understood to be prepared for extending the National Gallery with a view to the reception of the Turner pictures, without the distinct sanction of Parliament having been obtained.

Mr. VANNITTART urged delay until some decision was come to by Parliament which would bring about unity of design in all our national buildings.

Mr. W. COWPER said that a plan of an inexpensive character, the estimate being only £25,000, had been prepared with the object of adding to the National Gallery at the back of the building, but it was not so far matured as to be capable of being acted upon. He should not attempt any expenditure of public money without the consent of the House. There was space enough in the present National Gallery for the Turner pictures.

#### VOLUNTEER CORPS.

On the vote for volunteer corps, Mr. SELWYN complained of the small aid Government gave to these corps, especially in the matter of rifle ranges, and stated the refusal to grant a range near Hampton Court on the ground that the firing would disturb the coots in the Royal breeding paddock.

Sir J. SELWYLL pressed the prime necessity of providing rifle-grounds for volunteers.

Mr. T. G. BARING said that no less than £200,000 would be granted by Government to the volunteers next year. He was sure that all details connected with the force would meet with attention from Earl De Grey and Ripon, who was about again to undertake the office of Under-Secretary for War.

#### THE REVENUE.

In answer to Sir H. Willoughby, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that the supplementary estimates for the Army, Navy, and Civil Service had reduced his surplus of £108,000 to £47,000; but, looking to the returns of the revenue, he was justified in his belief that the ways and means of the year would be amply satisfied.

Mr. WHITE having in vain attempted to bring on a discussion on the appointments of Sir R. Peel and Mr. Leyard to offices in the Government, the report of Supply was agreed to, and the Appropriation Bill was brought in and read a first time.

The Public Offices Bill passed through Committee. A brief discussion on the decay of the frescoes took place between Mr. B. Osborne, Mr. Bantlinck, and Mr. W. Cowper, after which the House adjourned.

### MONDAY, JULY 29.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

##### THE APPROPRIATION OF SEATS BILL.

On the motion for going into Committee on the Appropriation of Seats (Sudbury and St. Albans) Bill, Lord STRATHEDEN moved that it be referred to a Select Committee.

The Earl of DENBY could not suppose that the Government would consent to refer to a Select Committee a bill so plain in principle, and so devoid of complication of details. While not opposing the measure, the noble Earl indulged in some sarcasm on the Government in bringing forward such a substitute for a large measure of Parliamentary Reform, which on the Liberal party, which refused to allow the Reform Bill to pass which appropriated these very seats, and provided for the constituencies now created, as well as for the representation of the London and Scotch Universities and Chelsea and Kensington.

After a few remarks from Earl Granville, the bill passed through Committee.

#### MAYORS AND JUSTICES.

On the second reading of the Municipal Corporations Act Amendment Bill, Lord WENLEYDALE and Lord CHELMSFORD objected to the bill, as conferring a legal right on mayors which might fall into the hands of incompetent men, that of presiding at meetings of justices.

After debate, on a division, the second reading was carried by 41 to 27.

#### THE EAST INDIA SERVICE.

The East India Civil Service Bill was read a third time. On the motion that it do pass, Lord MONTAGU complained that it had not been properly considered, and contended that it was objected to by some of the highest authorities in India, as it deprived the natives of the right of entering a branch of the service for which they were well qualified.

The bill passed. The Irremovable Poor Bill was read a third time and passed, as were several others of less general importance.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE GALWAY CONTRACT.—ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.

In answer to Mr. GREGORY, Lord PALMERSTON said, in reference to the Galway contract, that the report of the Committee had been circulated, but the Government had not seen the evidence, and were not prepared to come to any decision on the subject of mail communication between Ireland and North America; but there was no doubt that the west coast, and the town of Galway especially, seemed to be the most eligible point for a point of departure, which he thought was most desirable. He was not aware that a battery of rifled cannon, being contraband of war, had arrived at New York from England, and that a loan for the United States was about to be opened on the Stock Exchange in London.

#### THE APPROPRIATION BILL.—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

On the second reading of the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill,



Lord R. MONTAGU moved that it be not read a second time until it has been printed and in the hands of members.

Mr. T. HANNEY concurred in the amendment.

General PEEL inquired how a sum of £250,000 voted the other night for army excess was to be paid.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that sum had been already paid, and did not enter into the finance of the present year. If the amendment was agreed to, four or five days must elapse between the first and second reading of the bill, thus adding so much more to the Session.

Mr. S. ESTCOURT said it was a question of the mode of conducting the business of the House.

Sir G. BOWYER said that if the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer meant anything it meant that the Appropriation Bill was of no use at all. Why should it be dealt with in a different manner to other bills?

Mr. H. J. BAILEY would support the amendment unless some pledge was given that the irregularity complained of was amended hereafter.

Sir C. WOOD said that there was no irregularity; but the bill was introduced and carried through in the usual way.

Mr. SPOONER objected to giving his assent to a bill of which he knew not one iota.

Sir G. C. LEWIS said the bill was, after all, a technical formality, for in substance the votes were appropriated when they were given, and this bill only gave them a legal shape. There was no unconstitutional innovation in order to remedy which the House ought to be compelled to sit a week longer than it otherwise would.

Mr. AYTON said that the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer itself gave sufficient reason for agreeing to the amendment. This bill ought to afford an opportunity for reconsidering the votes in Supply.

Lord PALMERSTON said it was not the fault of the Government that the Estimates were delayed so late. When the votes were granted by the House the Government was at liberty to spend the money, and the Appropriation Bill was in the nature of an audit, to ascertain that the money was spent in the manner prescribed.

Mr. HENLEY said it was quite competent to the House to object to and strike out every vote in the Appropriation Bill. He thought that some inquiry should be made into the subject next Session.

The motion was negatived, and the bill was read a second time.

#### THE LAW OF DOMICILE.

On going into Committee on the Wills and Domicile of British Subjects Abroad Bill.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL explained that it was intended to settle the law of domicile, and the bill provided that no British subjects should be taken to be domiciled abroad unless they had resided in a foreign country for a year before their decease, and took steps showing their desire to be so domiciled. In reference to another bill, which also stood for Committee—the Wills of Persons of British Subjects Bill—which provided that a will would be sufficient if made in the form of the country in which it was executed, or by the law of the place where the person was domiciled, or by the law of any part of the United Kingdom, he thought, as it stood, it went too far, and he suggested its postponement.

A discussion of a somewhat technical character followed, in which Sir F. Kelly, Sir G. Bowyer, the Solicitor-General, Mr. Malins, and Sir H. Cairns took part.

Lord PALMERSTON agreed to accede to a proposition of Mr. Malins that the first bill should be accepted by the Opposition if the other was agreed to by the Government—so far, at least, as allowing them both to go through Committee.

Both bills then passed through Committee.

#### THE NAVAL RESERVE.

Lord C. PAGET moved the second reading of the Reserve (Royal Navy) Bill, the object of which is to give certain rank in the Navy to officers of the merchant service, on their going on service in time of war, in connection with the Royal Naval Reserve Force.

A discussion followed, and the principle of the bill met with approval but some objection was made to the details.

The bill was read a second time.

Much other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

### TUESDAY, JULY 30.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

##### VARIOUS BUSINESS.

The Accessories and Abettors, the Criminal Statutes, the Larceny, &c., the Malicious Injuries to Property, the Forgery, the Coinage Offences, and the Offences Bills were severally read a second time, as were the Durham University Bill and several others of slight importance.

The report of amendments of the Appropriation of Seats (Sudbury and St. Albans) Bill was received.

The Enlistment in India Bill and the Municipal Corporations Act Amendment Bill passed through Committee.

A number of bills were read a third time and passed, and others advanced a stage.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### ENGLAND AND HUNGARY.

Mr. GRIFFITH moved for copies of the despatches of Mr. Dunlop from Pesth, when acting lately as diplomatic agent of the Government in that locality; and asked what part her Majesty's Government took in the differences between Austria and Hungary.

Lord PALMERSTON, in declining to produce the papers, which could not be given without prejudice to the public service, said that he was of opinion that Austria should be preserved as a great empire in the centre of Europe; and, as to the differences between that empire and Hungary, they left them to be settled by the parties themselves, whatever might be their opinion as to the rights of the one or the other.

##### THE ECCLESIASTICAL TITLES BILL.

The House having gone into Committee on the Statute Law Revision Bill.

Mr. HENNESSY proposed that the Ecclesiastical Titles Act should be included in the schedule of the bill among the list of useless measures.

Sir G. C. LEWIS thought the hon. gentleman's motion must be intended as a practical joke.

Mr. HENNESSY said that the Act was a practical joke, for the Archbishop of Tuam, when examined before a Committee of that House, being asked who he was, boldly announced himself by his ecclesiastical title.

On a division, there were 4 votes for the motion and 69 against it.

The orders of the day were disposed of, and the House adjourned at an early hour.

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 31.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.

Mr. COWPER stated, in answer to a question from Sir J. Shelley, that the Government had received from the Thames Embankment Commissioners a report in which they recommended a plan for the execution of that work, which would provide for the convenience and advantage of the public, in combination with due regard for private rights, more successfully than any other plan previously devised. It was his intention to introduce a bill next Session to give effect to the engineering scheme now proposed, and to vest the expenditure of the funds derived from the coal duty in the Metropolitan Board of Works.

##### LUNACY.

On the motion that the House should go into Committee on the Lunacy Regulation Bill (Lords), Mr. WALPOLE and Mr. HENLEY urged various objections to its provisions, and protested against proceeding with a bill of this importance (which had been lying on the table since April) at so late a period of the Session, and in the absence of those members who were most competent to advise the House on the subject.

Colonel FRENCH moved, as an amendment, that the Committee should be postponed for three months.

Sir G. C. LEWIS and the Solicitor-General opposed the amendment, and called upon the House to proceed with the bill.

After some conversation, the amendment was carried without a division.

##### THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

The Lords' reasons for adhering to their amendment relative to the Chief Judge having been read, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that although the Government adhered to their opinion that the Lords' amendment nullified the bill, yet, as the measure would be lost if the amendment were now rejected, it was his duty to declare the readiness of the Government to accept it.

The orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned after a short sitting.

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 1.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

##### ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Royal assent was given by commission to the following bills—viz., Piers and Harbours, Turnpike Trusts Arrangements, Harbours, Passengers (Australian Colonies), Metropolitan Police Force Pensions, Railway Companies Mortgage Transfer (Scotland), Drunkenness (Ireland), Landlord and Tenant Law Amendment (Ireland) Act Proceedings, Vaccination, Vectors (Ireland), University Elections, Dublin Revising Barristers, Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Act Continuance, County Cess (Ireland) Act Continuance, Local Government Act Amendment, Locomotive Tramways (Scotland), East India (Civil Service), Irremovable Poor, Crown Suits Limitation, East India Council, &c., County Surveyors, &c. (Ireland), Public Works (Ireland), Advances and Repayments of Moneys, Attorneys

and Solicitors (Ireland), White Herring Fishery (Scotland), Turnpike Acts Continuance, Ordnance Survey Continuance, Criminal Proceedings, Oath Relief, and thirty-two private bills.

The Lords Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Argyll, and the Earl of St. Germans.

The following bills were read a third time and passed—viz., Industrial Schools (Scotland), Industrial Schools, Enlistment in India, and Indemnity Bills.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### NEW MEMBERS.

Sir G. Grey took the oath and his seat for Morpeth on being appointed Secretary for the Home Department, in the room of Sir G. C. Lewis, now Secretary for War. Sir R. Peel, for Tamworth, on being appointed Chief Secretary for Ireland, in the room of Mr. Cardwell, now Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Mr. W. Wood, for the city of London, in the room of Lord J. Russell, now elevated to the Upper House under the title of Earl Russell. Mr. Coles, for Andover, in the room of Mr. Cubitt, Lord Mayor of London, resigned.

##### THE SUZ CANAL.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Griffith, said he had been informed by our Consul in Egypt that a considerable number of forced labourers were employed on the Suez Canal works, but that they were very well paid by the authorities.

##### THE GALWAY CONTRACT.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Colonel French, said he had not yet had time to read the evidence given before the Galway Contract Committee. The Government, however, would make a statement on the subject before the prorogation.

The several bills upon the paper were advanced a stage.

**THE MINISTERIAL FISH DINNER.**—The customary Ministerial Whitebait Dinner which precedes the prorogation of Parliament took place on Wednesday evening at the Trafalgar, Greenwich. There were present—Viscount Palmerston, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, Earl Russell, the Duke of Newcastle, the Duke of Somerset, Mr. Gladstone, Sir G. C. Lewis, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. C. P. Villiers, Sir C. Wood, Lord Stanley of Alderley, the Earl of Ripon, Viscount Bury, Mr. F. Peel, Lord C. Paget, Mr. Hutt, Mr. Cowper, Mr. Lowe, the Attorney-General, Mr. G. Oliver, Mr. E. H. K. Huggess, Mr. Brand, Mr. Whitbread, Captain Drummond, Sir F. Grey, Mr. C. S. Fortescue, Captain C. Ed-n, Mr. T. G. Baring, &c. The party proceeded to Greenwich in a steamer from Hungerford-bridge, engaged expressly for the purpose. An account is given in some of our contemporaries of the circumstance which gave rise to the annual whitebait dinner. A certain Sir Robert Preston, possessor of Dagenham, in Essex, was in the habit of escaping occasionally to his fishing cottage from his Parliamentary duties as representative of Dover. His most frequent guest was, as he was familiarly styled, "Old George Rose," Secretary of the Treasury, and an elder brother of the Trinity House. Mr. Rose once intimated to Sir Robert that Mr. Pitt would, no doubt, much delight in the comfort of such a retreat. A day was named, and the Premier was accordingly invited, and received with great cordiality at "The Fishing Cottage." He was so well pleased with his visit and the hospitality of the Baronet—they were all considered two if not three bottle men—that, on taking leave, Mr. Pitt readily accepted an invitation for the following year, Sir Robert engaging to remind him at the proper time. For a few years Mr. Pitt was an annual visitor at Dagenham Reach, and he was always accompanied by "Old George Rose." But the distance was great, railways had not yet started into existence, and the going and coming was somewhat inconvenient for the First Minister of the Crown. Sir Robert, however, had his remedy, as have all such jovial souls, and he proposed that they should in future dine nearer London. Greenwich was suggested as a convenient site for the three ancients of the Trinity House, for Pitt was also a distinguished member of that august fraternity. The party was now changed from a trio to a quartet, Mr. Pitt having requested to be permitted to bring Lord Camden. It subsequently extended its dimensions, and at last Lord Camden considerably remarked that, as they were all dining at a tavern, it was only fair that Sir Robert Preston should be released from the expense. It was then arranged that the dinner should be given as usual by Sir Robert Preston, that is to say, at his invitation, and he insisted on still contributing a buck and champagne. At last Sir Robert died, but the Ministerial fish dinner had by that time become a custom which has never since been forgotten.

**THE BUILDERS' STRIKE.**—On Wednesday afternoon Sir G. Lewis received a deputation from the building trade, which was introduced by Mr. Ayrton, M.P. The right hon. Baronet said he had listened with much pleasure to the various statements placed before him by the different speakers. He could assure the deputation that in placing the Sippers at the service of the contractor for the barracks there had not been the slightest intention on the part of the Government to interfere on either side in the dispute now unfortunately existing between the men and the masters; their only object had been to expedite the work. If, however, the Government had thus unintentionally violated that desirable neutrality, he much regretted it. He was equally desirous now, as in 1859, to avoid interference. He could not deny, after what he had heard from the deputation, that there were many points in the question well worthy the consideration of the Government; he thought it a question fairly open for discussion; he thought they had made out a good case for inquiry; and, without plugging himself or the Government to any particular course, diligent inquiry should be made on the subject, and the various points urged should receive his most serious consideration. He regretted his necessary presence in the House prevented him entering now more fully into the question. The deputation then retired.

**BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.**—There is a tiny publication which makes its appearance once a quarter, and yet is never found classed among the "quarteries;" with a staff of 2197 contributors, their joint contributions do not swell its bulk beyond some thirty pages; and, although treating of matters affecting the whole population of these realms, few see it, and by fewer still is it read. This publication is issued from Somerset House, and is called a "Quarterly Return of Marriages, Births, and Deaths in England." It is, in fact, a current numerical and sanitary history of England. From the present number we learn that in the last winter quarter 65,862 persons got married, that was 135 in every 10,000. Large as this number may appear, it ought to have been larger, the proper rate being 112 in every 10,000. The births that take place in the spring quarter of the year are in the ratio of less than 36 to 1000; but this rate was exceeded last quarter, the proportion having risen to 37 in 1000, the total being 184,718. There were also 107,721 deaths in that period, or 215 to 10,000—a considerable decline, as the proper average is 221.

**TRANSPORTATION.**—Mr. Justice Byles, whilst on circuit a few days back, in his address to the grand jury, regretted that the punishment of transportation was abolished. He thought that that punishment was not only exemplary, but was healthy and effectively reformatory; whereas penal servitude destroyed a man for life, as no one would employ a convict after the expiration of his sentence, or a ticket-of-leave man.

**A NOVELTY IN MILITARY HYGIENE.**—A great deal of scientific investigation as to the causes of the unpleasantly high rate of mortality in our troops, especially in India, has lately been going on amongst the military hygienists, and the conclusion has been arrived at that it is the water drunk by the soldiers that does all the mischief. The remedy proposed is that for the future "John Sibi-box," who never, amongst all his faults, was accused of excess in his libations of the pure element, is, in addition to its already too numerous and too heavy contents, to carry a filter in his knapsack. A few marches under the sultry sun of India, thus loaded, is all that will be necessary to gain for this bright idea all the popularity it deserves.

**TWO DESERTERS.**—"A lady of Alexandria," says a New York paper, "relates the following incident, which affords a striking but sad illustration of the effects of civil war. The lady in question has resided with an only daughter for many years in Alexandria. About nine months since a mutual friend introduced a young gentleman of Richmond to the family. The young people soon became intimately acquainted, and, quite naturally, fell in love. The parents on both sides consenting, the parties were betrothed, and the marriage day was fixed for the 4th of July inst. In the meantime, however, Virginia was called upon to decide on which side they would stand. The ladies declared themselves on the side of the Government, but the gentleman joined the forces of his State. No opportunity was afforded for the interchange of sentiments between the young folks, or anything settled as to their future movements. Matters thus remained till the 4th of July, when, exactly within an hour of the time originally fixed for the marriage, intelligence was conveyed to the residence of the ladies that the young man had been shot by a sentry two days before, while attempting to desert and join his bride. His betrothed did not shed a tear, but, standing erect, smiled, and then, remarking to her mother, 'I am going to desert too,' fell to the floor, while the life-blood bubbled from her lips, and on Monday her remains were conveyed to their last resting-place."

**EXTRAORDINARY OUTRAGE ON A BRITISH CAPTAIN.**—The ship Branley Moore, Captain Williams, arrived at Liverpool on Thursday week. She left Mobile on the 30th of May, and on the 9th of June was boarded by an officer and men from the United States' gun-boat Massachusetts, who took Captain Williams from his own ship and detained him for upwards of an hour, after which he was released and the ship allowed to proceed. The Massachusetts reported having captured upwards of thirty vessels, among which was the ship Perthshire, from Mobile for Liverpool, which vessel had been allowed to pass by the blockading frigate Niagara, and at the time of her capture by the Massachusetts had been nine days at sea.

### MR. CARDWELL AT OXFORD.

No opposition was made to the return of Mr. Cardwell on Tuesday at Oxford. He appeared on the hustings, accompanied by the Mayor of Oxford, who presided on the occasion, and about a dozen other gentlemen, and before ten minutes had elapsed he found himself once more entitled to take his seat in the British House of Commons. He was proposed by Mr. Pike, and the nomination was seconded by Mr. Castle.

Mr. Cardwell, in the course of a speech in which he thanked the electors, said:—

My friend Mr. Castle has alluded to the foreign policy of the Government; and of that policy it will be necessary for me simply to say that, whether it regards Europe or America, it is a policy which is in accordance with the sentiments, which, indeed, it but justly reflects, of the English people, whose chief characteristics are a love of freedom, a love of independence, and an attachment to the cause of progress. Having mentioned America, I may be allowed to express my sincere sorrow at the calamity by which she has been afflicted, and my sincere desire that the blessings of peace and tranquillity may, under the guidance of Providence, be speedily restored to her people. Permit me now to say a word with regard to myself. I have, owing mainly to your favour, been spending the last two years in dealing with the affairs of the sister country in conjunction with Lord Carlisle, who, from the day when he first gathered his early laurels in this city, down to the moment at which I am addressing you, has continued to grow in the esteem and affection not only of the English, but also of the Irish people. During the period to which I refer many of the measures which were introduced into Parliament with respect to Ireland involved questions of great interest, and I sincerely hope that they have been dealt with by the Government in a manner which will tend to promote a cordial attachment between the two countries, and to root out, as far as possible, those feelings of an opposite character, the existence of which we have had so much reason to deplore. In Ireland the spirit of industrial improvement is, I am happy to say, manifesting itself from one end of the country to the other, in a degree most creditable to the energy of her people and extremely conducive to the general contentment and tranquillity of the realm. In the office in connection with that portion of the empire which I so lately held, I have been succeeded by the inheritor of a name more than all other names dear to the Irish people by the son of that great man who, called from among us by a great calamity, bequeathed to his fellow-countrymen the invaluable heirlooms of commercial freedom and religious liberty. I am quite sure—indeed, I know it from himself—that the descendant of that illustrious statesman will go to Ireland animated with the warmest affection for, and holding in the highest honour, the memory of his father; that he desires most sincerely to walk in his footsteps, and that he is earnestly determined to leave his name no less enshrined than we find it in the affections of the Irish people. Wherever he turns in the country to which he is going he will discover some vestige of his father's wisdom and power, and I devoutly hope that he is about to commence his career under auspices which may lead to a signal and satisfactory result. For my own part, entertaining as I do the most grateful sense of the unvarying kindness which I experienced at the hands of the generous and warmhearted people of Ireland, I shall always continue to take the deepest interest in every measure tending to promote their progress and prosperity.

### SIR ROBERT PEEL AT TAMWORTH.

The Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel was on Wednesday re-elected a member for the borough of Tamworth. There was no opposition. In the speech he made on the occasion Sir Robert said:—

Lord Palmerston, had sought to replace the vacancies by men who, he was glad to say, were not bound, body and soul, absolutely to any individual, but from among men who sat on the independent benches in the House of Commons, and had given their support to whatever Minister had proposed measures which, in their opinion, suited the wants of the country. Lord Palmerston had offered to him the appointment of Chief Secretary for Ireland, and he had readily, but with all deference, as far as his abilities were concerned, accepted it. He knew the responsibilities of the office he had undertaken, and he was aware that he was called upon to succeed a man who, by dint of great ability and habits of business, and his experience as a Cabinet Minister, had been enabled to understand the wants and wishes of, and render valuable service to, the people of Ireland—he meant Mr. Cardwell. He did not pretend to the qualities of his predecessor, but in accepting the office he had felt as every loyal Englishman ought, that when called upon it was his duty to render whatever humble services lay in his power. He would go to Ireland free from any strong political bias or party prejudice. He was, and as his constituents knew, ever had been, and advocate of toleration and thorough emancipation on the score of religious opinion, and it was not his view of the interests of the Protestant faith to rest it upon any system of disabilities or political exclusions. He had, in fact, always been of opinion that the best course to pursue was to smooth over, by a liberal system of equality, those differences which existed among men on religious subjects. In entering upon the office which he had undertaken he felt that the name he bore was very popular in Ireland in connection with measures which had largely contributed to the public good, and to the peace and prosperity of that part of the empire. In consideration of this he felt the responsibilities of the office, and he heartily prayed God to give him wisdom to fulfil its duties. He would endeavour to set about his work with a plain, honest determination to do his duty without flinching, and in a straightforward manner, and he felt satisfied that in so doing he should not be unfairly judged by the generous, warm-hearted, and keen-sighted people of Ireland.

### SIR GEORGE GREY AT MORPETH.

SIR GEORGE GREY has been re-elected for Morpeth. Sir George made an address, as usual, which was little more than a favourable review of the Session. On the subject of our foreign relations Sir George justified the course of neutrality pursued by the Government, hoping that the result would be such as to gratify the wishes of all those who desired to see the blessings of constitutional government as widely extended as possible among the nations of the earth.

**LORD ELGIN GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.**—Lord Elgin has been appointed to succeed Lord Canning as Governor-General of India. This appointment has long been contemplated, and is itself an explanation of the fact, which elicited some remark at the time, that Lord Elgin obtained no office during the late changes in the Ministry.

**GENERAL SCOTT AND THE REPORTERS.**—General Scott is reported to have said that he would have captured the rebels at Harper's Ferry, and all their munitions of war, had it not been for the newspaper press—in their anxiety to give early news—keeping the rebels fully posted up in every movement of the United States' troops. He said that "he would rather have 100 rebel spies in his camp than one newspaper reporter."

**A BOURBON PROCLAMATION.**—A proclamation, dated the 11th ult., and published by the pretended Provisional Government of Cotrone (Calabria) shows what may be expected from the insurgents said to be in the pay of Francis II.:—"Wherever there may be several bands, let them elect a chief, and endeavour to fall on the great towns. Let them cover the country with guerrillas; fatigue the enemy by marches and by feigned retreats across the mountains; lead them into narrow defiles, where a few men may easily destroy them by rolling down rocks from the steep sides of the precipices. In order to prevent the manoeuvres in the plains, strew the ground with fragments of glass, nails, and pieces of old iron, and dig up the ground in places where artillery are likely to be placed. Intercept the principal roads by digging deep ditches at intervals of fifty yards; and, in places where it may be useful, break down the banks of the rivers and cause them to overflow or change their course. Be careful also to destroy all the boats, so as the more completely to embarrass the operations of the enemy." The authors of the proclamation recommend that all Piedmontese prisoners shall be sent back to their native country, but that no quarter is to be given to the soldiers of the Hungarian Legion, who, as soon as they shall fall into the hands of their opponents, are to be banged on the highest trees near the roadside. This proclamation is published in the name of the Pope and King Francis.

**THE ALLIANCE.**—A sensation has been produced in Paris by the appointment of Sir Robert Peel as Secretary for Ireland. His denunciations of French aggression have rendered him the bete noire of the French official underlings, and it appears that ever since the annexation of Savoy the semi-official papers have been in full cry against him. The appointment is considered in Paris as a retaliation for the attacks made on Lord John Russell by the said journals—thus, M. de Persigny supplies an article in the *Constitutionnel*, in which the Foreign Minister of England is described as a Don Quixote; and "ce cher Palmerston" retorts by summoning to a post in the Cabinet one of the boldest and most reckless denouncers of the Emperor of the French in Parliament. The copious abuse of Lord John Russell in the French semi-official prints, and the appointment of Sir R. Peel have given rise to a strong impression in Paris that the relations between the two Governments are anything but friendly. It is to be hoped that, before Parliament separates, Lord Palmerston will afford some information on this important question. It is remarked that while the *entente cordiale* is daily cooling the Emperor is seeking, by various means, to conciliate Russia, Austria, and Prussia.



## THE NORTHUMBERLAND-STREET TRAGEDY.

THE extraordinary interest excited by the Northumberland-street affair induces us to print this week several Engravings in illustration of it.

At the inquest the most important witness was, of course, Mrs. Murray. What the Major himself would have to say was pretty well known; and it was not to him, but to the lady who had borrowed his name, to whom the public looked for an explanation of the mystery. When she was called, therefore, the excitement amongst the spectators was intense. She was elegantly attired in what appeared to be slight mourning. She had on a white bonnet, trimmed with black; a black veil, white muslin dress, with a small black flower pattern a richly-figured black lace shawl, and black kid gloves. Her hair, which is of a golden-brown colour, was arranged, not in the prevailing mode, but in a manner evidencing a taste of her own, and no doubt adopted after mature consideration as most suitable to her face. Her complexion is fair and clear; her features small and tolerably regular, though conveying rather the idea of weakness. She was allowed to be seated. After casting a glance round as if to gather from the expression of the faces of her audience what amount of sympathy she might expect in the ordeal she was about to undergo, she drew her veil down, but raised it again on the Coroner politely intimating that, thus muffled, her voice would not be heard sufficiently.

Mrs. Murray gave her evidence at times in a very agitated tone, at others with great coolness, and a rather affected prettiness of manner, which left a rather unfavourable impression on the mind. If many moneylenders were present they must have felt rather uncomfortable on hearing the suppressed groan that ran round the room when Mrs. Murray stated the terms on which she borrowed the £15 of Roberts—125 per cent. Some little amusement was created at the commencement of her evidence when, in answer to a question of Mr. Sleight as to how long ago it was since Roberts followed her and the Major down Victoria-street, Westminster, by her replying that he must know as well as she could tell him, because it was at the time when they commenced building the new bridge, and every one knew when that was. But Mr. Sleight professed his utter ignorance of that historical fact, and requested further enlightenment. When asked if she knew Major Murray, she became much excited, and sobbed hysterically. Windows were opened, and restoratives administered to her by Mr. Travers, one of the surgeons of the hospital, who constituted himself her medical attendant during the remainder of the examination, and his services were once or twice called into requisition. Great sensation was created when the witness stated the dishonourable proposal made by Roberts, as it was at once felt that here was the clue to the whole transaction. Some considerable applause followed the conclusion of her examination—one venerable old gentleman, no doubt smitten with the lady's charms, making a great demonstration with his umbrella.

After the witness had retired the Coroner read the letters written by Mrs. Murray to Roberts, and Mr. Sleight then recalled her, and wrung from her the humiliating statement that the letters were all



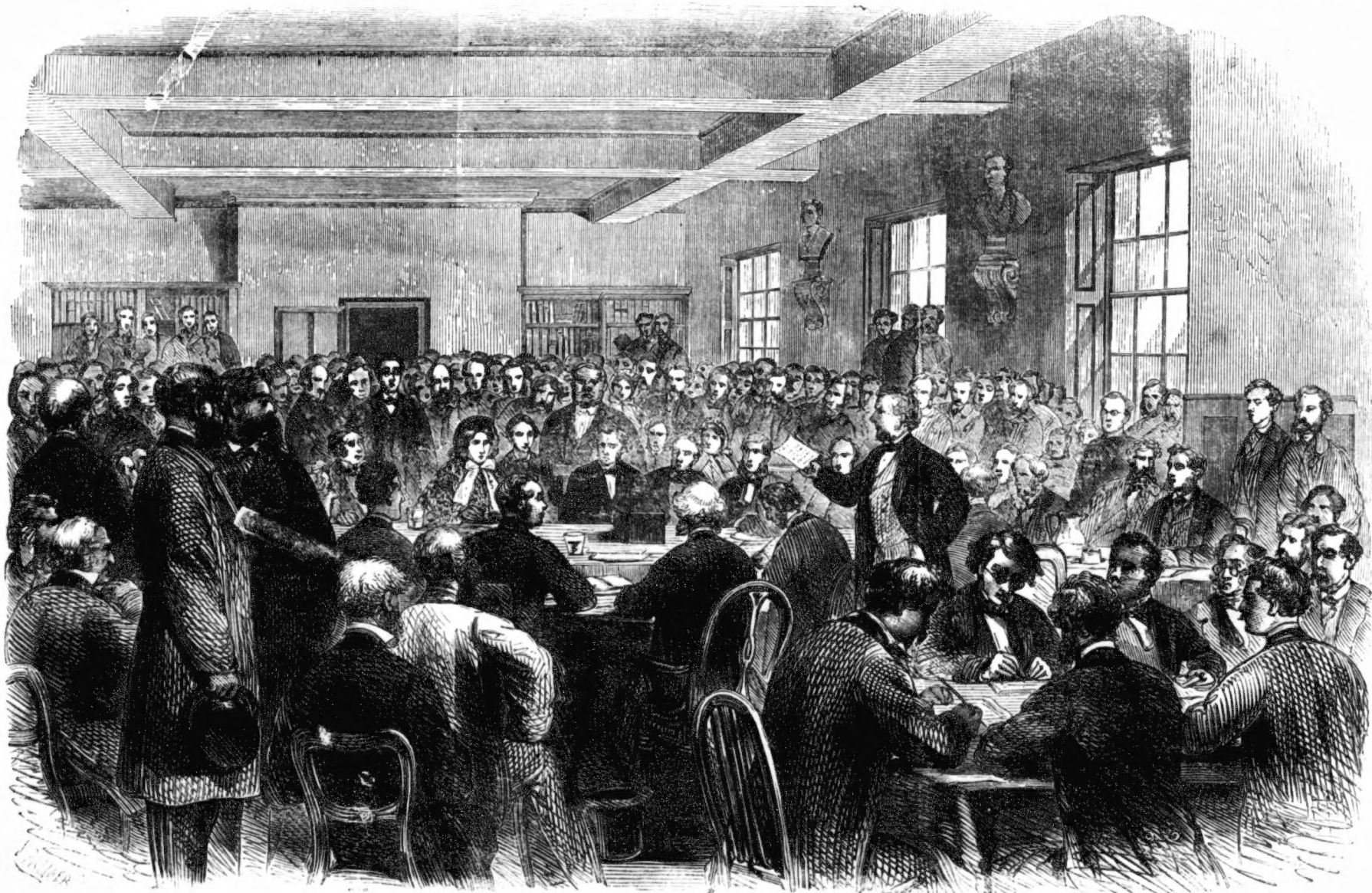
MISS ANNA MARIA MOODY, KNOWN AS MRS. MURRAY.

“craft” on her part. It is worth remarking that while making this statement she appeared to be cooler and more collected than at almost any other time during the inquiry. Mr. Sleight,

after getting this statement from her, closed his eyes, shrugged his shoulders, and sat down with an air of the most virtuous indignation, intimating that after that he would not ask her another question. No more applause followed when Mrs. Murray's examination closed; and even the old gentleman with the umbrella seemed to feel that applause would be out of character after such an admission.

Besides the portraits of Mrs. Murray (or rather of Miss Moody), we give the effigies of the counsel on either side, young Roberts, Dr. Canton, Mr. Clay, Mr. Ransom, Inspector Mackenzie, and other persons concerned in elucidating the mystery.

Of course this affair has its moral, and that has been very well stated by the *Times*. “Ninety-nine people out of a hundred,” says a writer in that journal, “would be perfectly happy if they could make up their minds to do without some one thing which they particularly desire to have. It is unnecessary, after the Northumberland-street inquest, to say what, or rather who, was the one great object in the late Mr. Roberts's scheme of happiness, the absence of which converted all the worldly comforts and success of a prosperous middle-aged bill-discounter into gall and bitterness, and finally precipitated him into chaos. There are two kinds of romance of which a very wise man has given a general outline under two very excellent precepts—‘Be not righteous overmuch,’ and ‘Be not overmuch wicked.’ The two kinds are not so wholly distinct, indeed, but that they have sometimes an unfortunate trick of overlapping, so that it is not easy to tell exactly which is the righteous and which is the wicked one; but the type of the two is different. One man pursues what is called a great idea, which is to regenerate society and effect nobody knows what. If you ask him for the proof of the correctness of it, indeed, he has not much to say; but that is neither here nor there, and does signify; it is ‘a great idea.’ That, then, is the ivory door of romance and extravagance out of which a man issues simply an egotistical fanatic and an intolerable coxcomb, but with his set of admirers, who think him an angel. The other is the door out of which Mr. Roberts has just made his calamitous exit. In this case we have the romance of uncontrolled passion. Some people, as soon as they hear that word, expect something great, refined, and sublime; but this is not at all necessary for romance, and in Mr. Roberts's case every characteristic of this kind is conspicuously absent. It is from beginning to end the most coarse, degrading, and vulgar affair that can be conceived. All that is necessary for romance is that there should be strength in it. It is like the case of language. Strong language need not be choice or elegant; indeed, some talkers think that it cannot be. Here is a coarse, brutal fellow, who first takes a mean advantage of an unfortunate young woman coming to him to borrow money to force his affections upon her, for which she, even in her situation, has moral feeling enough to rebuke him. He then pursues her in all directions—watches her, dogs her; she cannot get out of his way; she cannot take a holiday at the Crystal



THE INQUEST ON THE BODY OF MR. W. J. ROBERTS, AT CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL



Palace but he knows where she sat; he passes her in cabs; he wants to introduce her to his wife, for which she again rebukes him. He makes use of the power which her business visits to him have given him over her, as she does not want her acts of borrowing to be known, to force trumpery presents upon her and ardent letters, which she is obliged to answer in the same style for fear he should betray her if she did not. She fears him and is thoroughly cowed by him, simply because she knows him to be a ruffian, and knows that he will not scruple to do anything against her if she puts him out of temper. Finally, he thinks that he shall gain a secure road



MR. SLEIGH, COUNSEL FOR THE ROBERTS FAMILY.



MR. WILLIAM ROBERTS, SON OF THE DECEASED.



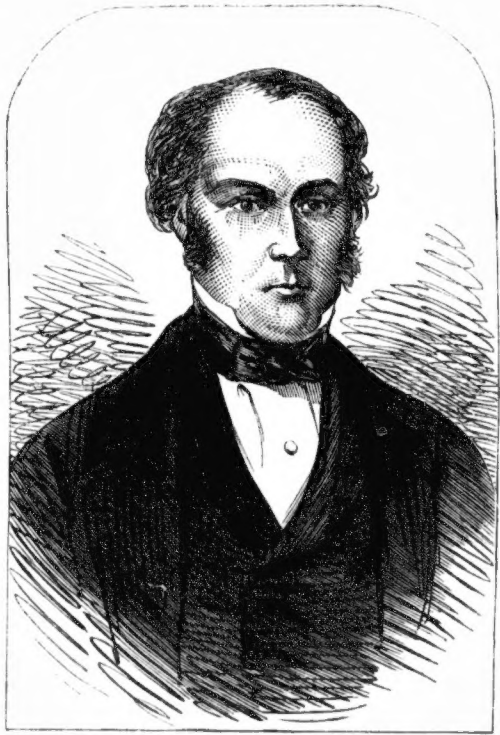
MR. HUMPHREYS, JUN., MAJOR MURRAY'S SOLICITOR.



MR. SKEGG, HOUSE SURGEON, CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL



SUPERINTENDENT DURKIN.



DR. E. CANTON, CHIEF SURGEON, CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL



MR. THOMAS CLAY.



INSPECTOR MACKENZIE.



MR. WILLIAM RANSOM.

to the possession of her if he can dispatch a rival, whom he gets within his clutches by bringing him to his room upon the pretence of a piece of business, and whom, as he is sitting in his chair, he comes behind with a pistol and shoots.

"All this is as coarse, disgusting, and brutal as can be imagined; yet, with the horrible death-struggle in the rooms, and with the obstinately-taciturn death lastly of Mr. Roberts himself in the hospital, it is a romance. Why? Because at the bottom of the whole lies one powerful, absorbing, and uncontrollable passion. Healthy motives and healthy moral temperaments do not furnish many

victims for romance of any kind, high or low; it is the unnatural strength of what is purely mental disease which produces that tremendous exhibition of power of a certain kind which is found in these tragic scenes. The madman is stronger than the sane man. It is when some fascination, whether designed or not in the quarter from which it comes, has worked upon a man and endowed some object with an absolute supremacy, and when the man's mind is completely carried off and drained into the exorcism of one swollen passion, that the greatest degree of mere strength is arrived at. He can then do anything he likes; nothing deters him, and nothing softens him; he is beyond hesitation and faltering. This is the brutal animal strength of coarse romance. When the authority whom we have just now quoted

recommends a steady, quiet life, as, on the whole, the best and happiest for men, it is thought by some that Solomon a little drops from his sublimity, and forgets for a moment that he is a great preacher—*bonus dormitat Homerus*. We do not attempt the discussion of that question. It is, however, perfectly easy for a man to enjoy the society of his neighbours and all kinds of commonplace pleasures so long as he has no other particular craving to haunt and agitate him—no tormenting want, nothing that creates a void within, and makes him feel empty and hungry so long as that gap is not filled up. But there comes a time when a prize, lovely or glittering, presents itself, that converts into a barren and sandy waste this whole everyday land of milk and honey; a sight has met the eye, a chord is struck, a sense is awakened, a new and fatal discovery is made; the

powers of fascination have thrown their spells over him, and a son that was free a minute ago is captive and enthralled. No human mind has an immunity from the danger of such attacks; every one is exposed to the chance of some powerful fascination, whatever be the texture of his mind, coarse or refined, that of an angel or that of a brute, he is exposed to it as being a man. Now, then, he finds it difficult to follow the piece of advice which we have quoted. He cannot enjoy his accustomed pleasures. He will have this new absorbing prize or nothing; and now, when his resolution is thus made, if events work well, we shall have a romance—an excessively low and vulgar one perhaps, but still a romance.

"Such appears to be the explanation of this horrible Northumberland-street tragedy. Whatever Mr. Roberts was—and it is plain



enough what he was—he was in a romantic state of mind in the sense which we have been describing; he was under that influence which may overcome the greatest blackguard in the world—the influence of an overwhelming fascination; he made no kind of attempt to resist it; he allowed it full impetus and swing. In vain was there a Mrs. Roberts, a young Roberts, and a family circle; a prosperous business, and money enough, as appears, for trips to Scotland, trips to the Continent, and anything else that was pleasant;—all the happiness of life went for nothing unless a particular treasure, which we need not specify, was possessed. Mr. Roberts was thus converted, by a simple form of the grossest mental disease, into a perfect Colossus of romance, with a will like that of a Titan. His object was not achieved, inasmuch as Mr. Roberts caught a Tartar in Major Murray; and the end of all was the tragical death of the most impassioned, enthralled, romantic, demoniacal, atrocious, and miserable of all bill-discounters."

#### TITLE AND INDEX TO VOL. XII.

Now ready, and to be had by order of all the Agents,

#### TITLE AND INDEX TO VOL. XII. OF THE ILLUSTRATED TIMES,

embracing not only an Index of the Engravings, but also of the Articles contained in the said Volume. Price 1d.; free by post for two stamps.

ERRATUM.—In a portion of our last week's Impression a Portrait of Monseigneur Pjalowski, the present Archbishop of Warsaw, had the name of Baron Ricasoli erroneously placed beneath it. In the present Number will be found a correct Portrait of the celebrated Italian Statesman; the memoir which should have accompanied it has been already given on page 32.

## ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1861.

### THE NAVIES OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

THE consideration of a vote of a quarter of a million towards the expense of building iron-clad ships led to a rather remarkable discussion in the House of Commons a few days since. The conversation was opened by Mr. Lindsay. This gentleman is a great naval reformer, as our readers are probably aware—a peace and retrenchment reformer, who was supposed to be equally acquainted with the moderation of the French Government and the madness of his own in all that belongs to naval affairs. Mr. Lindsay has always contended, with a consistency which is still admirable, though it does happen to be fallacious, that the French Emperor's ambition is *not* to create a great navy. The hon. gentleman sent a friend through our neighbour's dockyards on purpose to discover how little was being done therein; and the friend reported that there was hardly a hammer stirring. Therefore no hammer stirred. It was all panicky nonsense about the building of a fleet of Gloires and Magentas; and the British Government had been completely misled by their own fears and the Emperor's enemies. The report of Admiral Elliot—who went through the French dockyards too—was founded on "idle rumour;" and, though it might be true that France had at one time designed to build ten iron-clad ships, only three or four had been finished; while, as for the rest, Mr. Lindsay had reason to believe that she did not intend to go on with the "under the circumstances." This is the substance of what Mr. Lindsay urged, for the tenth time, against any further expenditure in England on iron clad ships; and Lord Palmerston answered him. The Premier declared that he *knew* the French Government had six mail-clad vessels of large dimensions afloat, and that, in pursuance of a decision arrived at so long ago as December last, the keels of ten others had been laid down, the whole of which could be completed in eighteen months or two years without extraordinary exertion. Here, then, is a fleet of sixteen iron-clad ships; and, besides these, the French have eleven vessels called floating batteries, some of which are powerful seagoing ships. Mr. Lindsay was astonished at this statement, based, as it was, on positive information. Lord Palmerston left no doubt on that head; while later in the debate Lord Clarence Paget came forward and gave the names of every one of these French ships, built or in process of building. But Mr. Lindsay was not only astonished—he was converted. He is reported to have said:—"If what the noble Lord had stated was correct, it was truly alarming, and he for one should be prepared to vote for £5,000,000. France had no right to hold that number of ships. She could not be honest in her professions towards England if this were so, and it behoved us to know what she meant by this terrible armament." And so we have another conversion. Mr. Cobden recently made a similar profession to that of Mr. Lindsay. Indeed, if we remember aright, the hon. member for Rochdale declared himself ready to vote a *hundred* millions for the building of ships rather than allow France to maintain a navy equal in strength to our own. Now, it is quite obvious that, if we remain idle while the French build their Gloires by the dozen, we shall soon find the sovereignty of the sea transferred to our neighbours; and, with that, away go our colonies, away goes our commerce, and in comes the Zouave. In two years—according to the accurate information of Lord Palmerston—the thing would be done; and, this contingency having been demonstrated, we suppose we shall hear no further objections to our naval expenditure from Mr. Cobden, Mr. Lindsay, or even, perhaps, from Mr. Bright.

But Mr. Lindsay's conversion was not the only remarkable thing in the debate. Mr. Disraeli expressed sentiments on the subject which were equally unexpected. He deprecated the competition now going on in the dockyards of England and France as irritating and ruinous, and asked, "What is the use of diplomacy, what is the use of a cordial understanding, if such a state of affairs is to continue?" Mr. Disraeli has long been convinced, it seems, that there exists on the part of the French Government a perfect willingness to come to an understanding with the Government of this country

as to the relative proportions of the naval power of the two nations. He has no doubt that such an arrangement might easily be come to, especially as France (has she not said it?) "would view with no jealousy the establishment of a naval power superior to that which she has fixed upon as the term of her exertions."

Now, here again we are in a difficulty as to the facts, and, unluckily, they are not so demonstrable in this case as in the other. It is as easy for Mr. Disraeli to say the French Emperor is not ambitious of eclipsing our naval power as for Mr. Lindsay to declare that France is not building formidable fleets at all; but Mr. Lindsay can be refuted by inquiry at French ports, while no man knows the counsels of the French Emperor. "Then, what is the use of diplomacy?" says Mr. Disraeli; "what is the use of a cordial understanding?" We have only to be frank enough, and the answer is easy: Diplomacy is of *no* use in such a case, and there is no such thing as a cordial understanding. Diplomacy may make what it can of the situation—may soothe here and tinker there, and play the blind man with open eyes. But the relations between England and France are *not* cordial; and, while these relations remain as they are—while the policy of Napoleon is so ambiguous, so shifty, so threatening—to talk of an "understanding" is absurd. We only know that we are anxious to be at peace with France and all the world; we do not know when we may be obliged to fight; and we see immense preparations for naval warfare by the only Power that can give us much trouble on the sea. True, the fleets which the Emperor is now preparing may not be meant to thrash us—they may only be meant to cow the Government of this country when any little annexation business is going on; and, if we permit that, we may as well invite a French army to London at once.

However, the question really does not admit of discussion; and, what is more to the purpose perhaps, it is settled. Our naval preponderance is necessary to our existence; provision has been taken to secure that preponderance; and there the matter ends at present. No doubt it would have been much easier to have made the arrangement with France which Mr. Disraeli suggests, and which other gentlemen have suggested before him; but, unhappily, it has the disadvantage which disqualifies the still better scheme of the Peace Society—it is impossible. Nor can we imagine that the Opposition leader himself really believes in it. How would he set about the arrangement? What means of superiority in ships, guns, men, does he think the Emperor would allow us? When is the scheme to come into operation? Which party is to inaugurate it? What security is there that the convention would be faithfully carried out? And how long does Mr. Disraeli think it would last?

No. The fact is, Mr. Disraeli is aware that there is a notion abroad—disseminated by the Radical press—that were the Conservatives to come into office war would follow. This notion he thought it as well to refute at the close of a Session so full of hope for his party; and the intention was so wise, the end so desirable, that it is a pity he blundered so much in execution. Conservatives no more desire war than the Radicals themselves; but we doubt whether they are not ashamed of the views, half pedantic, half sentimental, altogether vague, expressed by their leader on this subject yesterday week.

A BRITISH MONARCH FOR THE IONIAN ISLES.—The Paris correspondent of the *Globe* says:—"We have a letter from the Ionian Islands, dated June 8, O.S. (20th, N.S.), the writer being an adherent of the great Dandolo. He expresses his disappointment at King Otto having lately passed the Straits of Corfu without landing to receive the homage of his would-be lieges. He informs us that the faction who support British protectorate—'mostly placent or place-hunters'—have started a journal in advocacy of their cause, called the *Procurator*, printed in triple columns, Romaic, Italian, and English. The first number of this tripartite broadsheet announces the formation of the septennial group into a Royal principality, to be governed by Prince Alfred and his heirs in independent sovereignty (but strict British alliance, under the cognizance of *Αἰσθητὸς Βασιλεὺς τῶν Ἰονίων*). A sailor king is a desideratum for these Cyclades, and the R.N. cadet may combine in his person the seafaring qualifications of Ulysses with the current-growing tastes of King Alcinoos. But the plan is vigorously denounced by the incorruptible patriot, who writes—'We will not have him but Otho!' better a Bavarian or a Barabba! is the cry of the Dandoloians."

THE WISLEYAN CONFERENCE.—On Thursday week the 118th annual conference of the Methodist Ministers was commenced in Brunswick-place Chapel, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. As usual, the first business was to supply the vacancies caused by death and superannuation in the number of the "Legal Hundred." These are filled up partly by seniority and partly by an elective nomination. The following are the names of the new members of the Legal Hundred:—James Catton (by seniority), in place of William Baker (superannuated); Samuel Romilly Hall (by nomination), in place of George Birley (superannuated); Thomas Dunn (by seniority), in place of Thomas Harris (superannuated); John Watson, 1st (by seniority), in place of Thomas Turner (deceased); George Turner, 1st (by seniority), in place of J. F. Mathews (superannuated). Subsequently the Conference proceeded to the election, first of its president and then of its secretary, for the year 1861-2. The votes given were as follow:—For President—the Rev. John Rattenbury, 145; the Rev. Charles Prest, 122; the Rev. Dr. Osborn, 5. For Secretary—the Rev. John Farrar, 235; the Rev. W. L. Thornton, 18.

ELECTION SATURDAY AT ETON COLLEGE.—Notwithstanding the impression which appeared to be entertained that "Election Saturday," which is one of the most agreeable of the annual festivals at Eton College to past and present Etonians, was this year to be shorn of its pleasant attractions, there was a large attendance of the nobility and gentry at the college on Saturday to participate in the festivities enjoyed by the Royal founder, Henry VI. The customary Latin speech delivered on these occasions was given in the quadrangle by Austen-Leigh, K.S., "captain" of the college for the ensuing year. It was elegantly couched. With scarcely a single exception, all the other speeches were delivered with considerable animation and spirit. At the termination of the speeches most of the visitors adjourned to the college chapel to inspect the improvements effected in that sacred edifice during the last few years. Among the principal of these are the magnificent stained glass windows, the gift of the Rev. J. Wilder, one of the Fellows of the college. The usual election dinner took place in the college hall at three o'clock, where covers had been laid for about 150 guests, the college being also among the number. The principal event of Election Saturday is of course the regatta, or annual procession of boats from Windsor-bridge to Surly-hall and back, and accordingly some thousands of spectators assembled in the Brocas to witness the start. The usual display of fireworks on a gorgeous scale took place from the eyot on the Thames.

THE TOWER.—Several curious weapons of war have lately been brought to the Tower of London, having been captured by our troops in the recent Indian mutiny. The most extraordinary is an axe used by the King of Oude's executioner and carried by him before his Majesty on State occasions. It is upwards of one hundred pounds in weight; the Royal arms are engraved on the blade; and it is placed at the bottom of the stairs leading to Queen Elizabeth's armoury.

### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

ACCORDING TO PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS, the Queen and the Prince Consort, accompanied by Princess Alice, will leave Osborne on the 20th inst. for their tour in Ireland.

THE CROWN PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF PRUSSIA AND PRINCESS ALICE visited Winchester on Saturday. After inspecting the cathedral they drove to St. Cross Hospital, where they partook of the time-honoured hospitality in the shape of bread and cheese and ale tendered to travellers.

ALL THE SOVEREIGNS OF EUROPE have, it is stated, received invitations to the approaching coronation of the King of Prussia, and will be represented by special Ambassadors.

THE HEREDITARY PRINCE OF HOHENZOLLERN is to marry the Infanta of Portugal on Sept. 7, the fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the Prince's father.

THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH has sent General Decaen, Commander of the military division of Bayonne, to present his compliments to the Queen of Spain, who is at present at Santander.

THE SULTAN has already sent to England for four armour-clad iron screw steam-vessels.

THE DAUGHTER OF THE DUKE OF MONTPENSIER is dead.

THE WHOLE OF THE ARMOUR GRAND JURY, with one exception, have signed a memorial to the Lord Lieutenant praying his Excellency to free the county from the proclamation under the Crime and Outrage Act, to which it has been subject since the 12th of July, 1860.

A GRAND SCALE OF PROMOTION IN THE FRENCH FLEET is announced. There are to be 15 new Vice-Admirals, 153 Post Captains of the line, 265 frigate Commanders gazetted on that occasion; and all this outward flourish is accompanied by a corresponding energy in the dockyards.

A VESSEL has arrived at Marseilles from Italy completely laden with objects of art for the French Government.

WHEN THE MARQUIS DE LAVALLETTE waited on the Sultan to take leave before quitting that city, his Majesty, it is said, not only treated him most graciously, but, acting on the intentions of his late brother, the Sultan Abdul-Medjid, presented him with that Monarch's portrait set with diamonds.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S ELEVATION TO THE PEERAGE was announced in Tuesday's *Gazette*; and as Earl Russell he took his seat in the House of Lords the same evening. He was introduced by Lords Granville and Stafford; and it was observed that throughout the sitting he occupied the place usually taken by the leader of the Upper House.

THE ULTRA-PROTESTANTS OF IRELAND are scandalised at the Prince of Wales visiting Maynooth on Sunday, and being so friendly with Archbishop Cullen. They wonder by whose artful contrivance it was that Maynooth College should be the first public institution favoured by his Royal Highness with a visit.

THE AKHBAR of Algiers has been visited with a "communicated note" for some remarks censuring the liberally slowness with which the land batteries returned the salute of an English vessel arriving in the harbour.

AT COLNE, the battle-ground of the long-continued and disastrous strike, the foundation-stone of a co-operative weaving-shed was laid on Saturday, and 700 looms will shortly be at work in it. It is expected that a co-operative mill will soon be one feature of Colne.

A MONUMENT TO JAMES MONTGOMERY, the poet, was unveiled at Sheffield on Monday, in the presence of a large concourse of people. There was a large procession through the town to the site of the statue, and the town observed the day quite in the holiday fashion.

THE HEAD MASTERSHIP OF ELY CATHEDRAL GRAMMAR-SCHOOL has become vacant by the resignation of the Rev. John Ingle, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge. The appointment is in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Ely.

THE MAUSOLEUM which has been erected in the gardens of Frogmore Lodge, and which is to receive the remains of the late Duchess of Kent, has been consecrated by the Bishop of Oxford.

IN ONE DAY three hundred accidents from the careless use of firearms occurred recently in New York.

THE CONTENT OF BRASS BANDS at the Crystal Palace resulted as follows:—The first prize to the 3rd West York Volunteers, the second to the Chesterfield Volunteers, the third to Messrs. Mariner's, of Keighley; the fourth to the 15th Durham Volunteers, and the fifth to the Stanhope band.

THE *Times* Paris correspondent gives publicity to a rumour that the bribe of the Island of Sicily would be held out to the British Government by France in order to induce a compliance with the cession of the Island of Sardinia to the latter Power.

SINCE the French commercial treaty has been in operation a large number of French cows have been imported into England from the Channel Islands as Alderney cattle. To prevent this in future it has been proposed that the Jersey and Guernsey authorities should brand all French cows landed at those islands.

THE VEN. C. JONES has resigned the archdeaconry of Essex.

THE AMERICAN SHIP WINGED ARROW has sailed from the Clyde for New Zealand, with 550 sheep.

TWENTY THOUSAND STEAM-BOAT MEN are out of employment on the Mississippi River in consequence of the embargo at Cairo.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, we hear, has refused to allow the Sevres manufactory to execute an order for the ex-Queen of the French.

THE NEW YORK MARINE INSURANCE POLICIES cover losses by pirates and not by privateers; therefore, if the Northern Courts condemn Southern privateers as pirates, the insurance companies will be liable.

THE SUIT AGAINST THE REV. MR. DONWELL is said to have cost the Bishop of London £2000.

COMPLAINTS with regard to the potato disease continue to increase in Essex and the adjoining counties. The chief defect in the vegetable is its want of firmness. Harvest operations have commenced this week in the eastern district.

THE NEW IRON STEAM-FRIGATE DEFENCE is to have a Commander as well as her Captain. Commander Philip Saumarez is named for her.

DURING THE FESTIVAL OF ST. MARINA, at Venice, an agent of the Venetian revolutionary committee threw a fulminating bomb into a coffee-house crowded with men, women, and children. Three persons were seriously injured. The perpetrator of this atrocious act was arrested, as were also his accomplices.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP HUSSAR, which had been forwarded to Shoeburyness to serve as a target for experimental purposes, was consumed by fire a few days since, immediately after the Artillery had ceased firing shot and shell into her.

THE PRICE paid by France to the ex-King of Naples for the Farnese Gardens is 90,000 crowns, about 500,000*l.* They are situated on the Palatin Mount, where the palace of the Cæsars formerly stood. The French Government is about, as mentioned, to make further excavations on the spot.

THE TROOPS are to be regularly instructed in gymnastics by order of the Commander-in-Chief.

A CONVENTION, with a view to accelerate communication with India, has just been entered into between the Government of this country and the Sultan, so as to furnish all the requisite facilities for the purpose as regards the Ottoman territory.

THE POLES OF POSEN are now wearing mourning-rings of silver, enamelled with black, and bearing in white letters on a black ground the date of Feb. 27, 1861.

THE SPANIARDS have now about 9000 soldiers at San Domingo. The Royal Mail packet lately met four transports laden with troops.

HER MAJESTY'S STEAMER SPIEFUL, for whose safety apprehensions were entertained, has reached Port Royal in safety.

THE ARMAMENT of the Germanic coasts of the Baltic Sea still continues to be one of the favourite projects of Prussia. According to the Conferences of Berlin of 1860, the object is, in the first place, to build eighty gun-boats—for a first-class, twenty second, and twenty third.

TWO LETTER-CARRIERS were committed from Bow-street on Tuesday on charges of stealing post letters. These make six commitments within a fortnight for the same description of offence, showing a very unsatisfactory state of an important branch of the public service.

A NEW PADDLE STEAM-VESSEL is in progress at the Deptford Dockyard for the service of Dr. Livingston and the party now engaged in exploring the interior of Africa. Her dimensions are:—Length, 120 feet; beam, 15 feet; depth, 7 feet; draught, two feet.

THE QUEEN has conferred the knighthood of the new Indian Order upon Lord Combermere and Sir George Pollock.

A MODEL SULTAN.—A letter from Constantinople in the *Journal de France* says:—"The new Sultan appears determined to never have but one wife. A few days since the Valide Sultana, agreeably to old tradition, purchased a young slave, the most beautiful that could be found in the capital. She dressed her out in jewels and the richest clothing, and offered her to her son, 'Who is that woman?' demanded Abdul Aziz. 'The slave whom, according to custom, I offer you on your accession to the throne,' was the reply. 'I have nothing to say to her,' replied the Sultan; 'have I not a wife whom I love? Let me hear no more of such customs and such presents.'"



## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE result of the City contest cannot have surprised any one who is acquainted with the political history of London. In 1832 four Liberals were returned; in 1833, in March, on the death of Alderman Waltham, Mr. Lyall, a Conservative, slipped in; in the same year, August, on the retirement of Sir John Key, a Liberal was returned; in 1835, four Liberals; in 1837, four Liberals; in 1841 two and two (this was the election at which Lord John Russell was first returned by the small majority of 9); in 1843, on the death of Sir Matthew Wood (father of the new member), a Liberal was elected; in 1847 three Liberals and one Conservative; in 1849, when Baron Rothschild retired, he was re-elected; and in 1849, on the death of Patterson, one Liberal, without a contest; in 1852 three Liberals and one Conservative; in 1857, four Liberals; and in 1859, the same, without a contest. It is remarkable that at every general election, except the last, since the Reform Bill there has been a contest. On a review of this statement, then, it must be obvious that the Liberal party is, and has been since the Reform Bill, decidedly the strongest in the City. Much stress, however, was laid upon the position and popularity of the Lord Mayor, and the refusal of the Dissenters to vote for Mr. Wood. A word or two, therefore, on both these subjects. The Lord Mayor's influence in the City is nothing to what it was forty or fifty years ago. Then he was a great magnate. None but liverymen had votes then, and he was the chief of the livery, but the Reform Bill greatly changed all that by the introduction of ten-pound householders. And, then, just reflect what an army of watermen steam-boats have been swept from the Thames. These men numbered many hundreds—they were all liverymen—used to form part of the great City procession on Nov. 9, and of course were more or less under corporate influence. And it is here worthy of notice that the Lord Mayor at the late election had a majority of 925 liverymen, but of householders Wood polled a majority of 131. As to the popularity of the Lord Mayor, it is questionable whether this extends far down. He has feasted the City magnificently; but number up all his guests, and what does the number amount to compared with the vast mass who never even inhaled the smell of turtle? Touching the Dissenters, I do not believe that they stopped away from the poll in any considerable number. It is true that the "dissenting Dissenters" pronounced against him; but it must be remembered that this body of gentlemen never had any power over the Dissenters, and that for many years its existence has scarcely been recognised. In short, it is a mere dead relic of past days, without power or influence. Indeed, I had thought, till I heard its feeble mutterings the other day, that it had been extinct and buried. The result of the final close of the poll was brought to the House of Commons at about five o'clock on Tuesday. Mr. Crawford, who sat behind Lord Palmerston, was observed to hand it to the noble Lord, whereupon his Lordship, having read the state of the poll, made some remark which was, of course, inaudible in the gallery, and clapped his hands, as if he were applauding at the Opera. I cannot help pitying poor old Mr. Cubitt. He had a quiet, safe seat for Andover, and now he is out. Why did his friends persuade him to play such a desperate card as this? Or did he act without advice? If so, it is remarkable, for he is seventy years old, and at that age vaulting ambition is generally pretty well tamed down.

The tone of her Majesty's Ministers has been very warlike of late. Lord John Russell's last speech in the House of Commons was like the sound of a trumpet calling to arms. Nor was Lord Palmerston's defence of our Navy expenditure more peaceable. There is an article, too, in the *Quarterly*, said to be written by Mr. Layard, the new Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, of the same tenor. (By-the-by, how is it that the Whig Under-Secretary writes political articles in the *Quarterly*?—is old "Blue and Buff" dead?) It is remarkable, however, that Disraeli has delivered lately a pacific speech. He did not recommend that we should cease building iron ships, but he protested against the idea that France was doing anything that need alarm us. "She was reconstructing her navy; we are doing the same. Diplomacy ought to interfere in time to prevent the two nations from carrying on an insane competition. If diplomacy did not do this, what was it for?"

The season is over; the Ministerial whitebait dinner has been eaten; the Opera shuts on the day on which these lines are published; and the Academy, closing to the public on Saturday last, broke out again for four hours of lamplight at the conversazione on Wednesday, and its rooms are now being finally dismantled. The season is over! and what do we remember of it? What were the topics of conversation, so well worn, so much used, and yet so necessary during those long quadrilles with the foolish virgins of society? The pictures of Mr. Ward and Mr. Fied, the gorilla-book of M. Du Chailu and the personal conflicts of that redoubtable little champion, Patti's rising and Grisi's setting, Mr. Boucicault's "tremendous heater," Mr. Robson's serious illness, Mr. Alfred Austin's brilliant insolence, Lord Campbell's death, Lord Russell's elevation, and, recently, the "Northumberland-street tragedy" and Baron de Vidi. There was another great topic, certainly, but one rather for after-dinner conversation among gentlemen, or in club smoking-rooms.

A spasmodic attempt has been made by the *Times* to persuade people that the subject of pretty horsebreakers had been buried alive, and only wanted digging decently (or indecently) up again to be quick with interest. Was there ever such a failure? None but its own correspondents or outsiders, almost as superficial, could be brought to "ventilate" the great social question. All that came of it was, that we have accepted the situation, think it uncommonly bad, and wish to hear nothing more about it. One single chapter of Mill's "Political Economy" is more to the purpose than all the wails of all the matrons in or out of Belgravia in all the valleys of tears since money and matrimony became synonymous. Not a very recent speech that. The mischief grows, no doubt, and will go on growing, in a calm, steady, logical sort of way, so long as preachers, week day or other, fancy their sermons and leading articles have anything to do with the solution.

Finding the marriage question a failure, our instructors have been treating us to some muscular Christianity, in the shape of wonderful ascents of Scawfell, and such-like supposed impenetrable places. I wish people would be good enough to walk in the smooth places with a little more success. What a parcel of climbers men appear to have become! There is a perfect frenzy for something "high up." Acrobats are the rage in every department. Your Leotards and Blondins are merely the straws that show which way the popular wind blows. Acrobats in literature, acrobats in science, acrobats in finance; tumblers, jugglers, and aeromats in the Senate, the laboratory, and monthly magazines; everything everywhere but good, honest, straightforward, say-what-you-mean-and-leave-it purpose and performance. I am not a politician, but I can't help remarking that this rage for somersaulting has invaded even the breast of an aged Premier, who has been turning his Cabinet upside down and making it jump head over heels for the purpose—no other is apparent—or showing with what dexterity it lights upon its feet again. Seriously, this alpine climbing is becoming a nuisance, and we have had a little too much of the Alpine Club and the personal narration of the autumnal proceedings of its members on "peaks, passes, and glaciers." Last year several lives were lost by these foolhardy excursions; and even this week the *Times* inserts a letter from some light-heeled tourist who has been up Mont Blanc, and who is specially proud of having made the ascent with a smaller number of guides than was in accordance with safety.

Mr. Sant was elected A.R.A. by the academicians on Tuesday, by a majority of one only, the next on the list of candidates being Mr. Lunnell, of "Heather Bloom" celebrity. Mr. Sant is a very clever,

refined, and fashionable portrait-painter; but, surely, there were greater and better men to be chosen before him?

It is intended to hold a meeting on Friday, at the Egyptian Hall, to take into consideration the advisability of starting a national collection of paintings of our national victories. This is a move in the right direction; and, taken up, as we hear it is, by several military men of the highest standing, it will probably be successful. France never won a skirmish without having it recorded on canvas, while the pictorial record of our triumphs is confined to coloured lithographs in Mr. Ackermann's window or the insane productions of poor Mr. Jones, R.A. It is intended to make the excellent Victoria Cross Gallery of M. Deshayes the nucleus of the collection.

The prospectus of "The National Book Union" has been issued. Lord Brougham is President; Messrs. Massey, Berkeley, W. Russell, G. A. Sala, A. Frollope, S. Lucas, J. C. Jeaffreson, and Sir J. Kay Shuttleworth, Vice-Presidents; and Mr. Blanchard Jerrold is Honorary Secretary. The scheme proposes to give a national standard work to every annual subscriber; and, as the details seem practical and the result will undoubtedly be beneficial to the working classes it is to be trusted that it will be speedily carried into successful operation.

## DEATH OF THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM.

THE Duke of Buckingham and Chandos died on Monday, at the age of 64. Heir to a great position, he took no mean part in public business, and enjoyed no small influence in the Legislature. It is less for this, however, than for the greatness of his misfortune that he will be longest remembered. He lost everything but his name. Through his mother he represented one of the most noble houses in the land, the long line of his ancestors being all famed for their magnificence; this one known as "The King of Cotswold," and that as "The Princely Chandos." Through his father he was head of that family of Temples which, including the Grenvilles, has given more statesmen to the nation than any other in the land—First Lords of the Treasury, First Lords of the Admiralty, Chancellors of the Exchequer, Secretaries of State without number. The family had wealth corresponding to its renown, and, above all, such a treasure-house in its mansion at Stowe as could only have been created by long generations of men exalted in station, abounding in luxury, and accustomed to all the refinements of life. All vanished under the hammer. All the priceless heirlooms of an illustrious family were scattered over the world, to be sold in shops, and to glitter, some in the halls of hotels, others in the drawing-rooms of self-made men. The broad acres went with the treasures which it would be more difficult to replace, and the Duke of Buckingham found himself stripped of his heritage, the owner of little more than the titles of his ancestors. He lost even his wife, who got a divorce from him. It was a great fall, that might in its way be compared with the descent of another Duke of Buckingham, to whom, on a small scale, he bore some resemblance, and who,

Stiff in opinion, always in the wrong.

Was everything by starts, and nothing long;

But in the course of one revolving moon

Was chemist, fiddler, statesman, and buffoon;

Then a poet, a painter, a rhyming, drinking,

Benighted thousand freaks that died in thinking.

In quandering wealth was his peculiar art;

Nothing went unrewarded but desert.

Bequeathed by fools, whom still he found too late,

He had his jest, and they had his estate.

We might even add the lines in which Zimri is said to have laughed himself from Court, and to have amused himself in forming parties or which he could never be chief.

Sir Richard Plunket Temple Nugent Brydges Chandos Grenville, Duke and Marquis of Buckingham and Chandos, Earl Temple, Viscount and Baron Cobham, and, in the peerage of Ireland, Earl Nugent, was born in the house in Pall-mall which bears his name on the 11th of February, 1797. His education as a boy was private. As he grew up he went to Oxford. In 1819 he married Mary Campbell, daughter of the late, and sister of the present, Lord Breadalbane, by whom he had two children—a son, Marquis of Chandos, who succeeds to his title, and a daughter, Lady Anne Gore Langton. He entered the House of Commons in 1826 as member for Bucks, which county he represented till the death of his father in 1839. There, if he showed no brilliant talents, he made a respectable figure, and he gave his name to a provision of the Reform Bill known as the "Chandos clause," which extends the franchise in counties to tenancies of £50. It is the only part of the Reform Bill which is identified with any one man's name, and Lord John Russell has always maintained that it had the effect of destroying the symmetry of the Whig measure, and frustrating Whig expectations in the counties. The Duke—the Marquis—stood forward as the county member and farmer's friend. In 1838 he obtained a Select Committee in the house of Commons for the consideration of the grievances and depressed state of the agriculturists. When Sir Robert Peel came into office he was made a Cabinet Minister, with the office of Lord Privy Seal; but when the Premier proposed to deal with the corn laws in 1842 the Duke, rather than permit the question to be opened, retired from the Government. He never again held office. His troubles overtook him and crushed him down. After this disaster the public heard little of him, save as an author. He collected all the correspondence of his family, and the friends of his family, which threw light on the political intrigues of Courts and Cabinets ever since George III. began to reign, and published it with a concise narrative. There may be a doubt whether some of the communications have not been published too soon; but there can be no doubt as to the value of the materials which he provided, which extend to many volumes. The Duke was engaged in another historical work when he died.

Speaking of the late Duke's progenitors, the *Post* says:—

The age when Grand Seigneurs monopolised the best places in the Government of kingdoms, altogether irrespective of first-rate qualifications and ability for office, has passed away in France more than seventy years ago; and though the custom of appointing men of family without high qualifications was never at any period very prevalent in England, it may be said to have passed with the Pelhams, the Orletons, and the Portlands, between the years 1743 and 1807. Not that there were not other families of large landed possessions, great territorial power, who did not also seek, since 1740, when the first Pitt was Paymaster-General, to obtain power and rank by the influence derived from their vast landed possessions. There were undoubtedly three or four such families a hundred and fifteen years ago, in addition to those who have already named, and among the foremost was the family of Earl Temple, which was created, first Marquis, and secondly Duke, of Buckingham. Earl Temple, the brother-in-law of the great commoner and orator, was undoubtedly a man far above the average, and may in some respects have been pronounced a distinguished man, whether as a scholar or a politician; but if it were not for his connection with the first Earl of Chatham, and his being surrounded by a crowd of able and industrious kinsmen, it may be doubted whether the family of which he was the head would ever have become Marquises, still less Dukes, of Buckingham; for Earl Temple was a person of haughty and imperious carriage, of arrogant temper, cold, selfish, and ambitious. To attain his personal objects he resorted to means not always justifiable, and condescended to mix with persons of tainted character. John Wilkes was at one period one of his friends and boon companions, and he supported this unprincipled demagogue both by his purse and by his influence. But though Earl Temple and the great commoner (afterwards Earl of Chatham) were estranged from each other by feelings originating in the degrading ambition of the former, yet this did not cause this lord of many acres to pause in his path nor to relax in his progress towards higher titled rank. It is true he was mightily helped by his own tribe and clan. There were Thomas Grenville and George Grenville, a first-rate figure in Parliament, on whom Burke has pronounced as flowing a panegyric, who took to public business not as a duty, but as a pleasure; and there was James Grenville, a useful Treasury Lord under the Duke of Newcastle in 1790. We are not, then, surprised at finding one of the house of Temple seated an Earl, Viscount of Ireland in 1782, with Mr. Wyndham Grenville, afterwards Lord Grenville, for his chief secretary, and again Viscount of the same country, but promoted to a marquessate, in 1787. This Peer was the grandfather of the second Duke of Buckingham, who

died after a short illness on Monday evening; and it is a curious and remarkable circumstance that, when he died for the second time the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Ensign Arthur Wellesley (who had then been eight months in the Army) was attached to the Viceroyal Court as one of the Marquis's aids-de-camp. Between the Marquis's first and second vicereignty he was four days Secretary of State in 1783, in the place of Mr. Fox—an appointment which he owed partly to his being the son of the celebrated George Grenville, who was First Minister of the Crown in 1763, and partly to his connection with the Pitts, the Stanbroses, the Cary-fords, the Fortescues, the Brybrooks, the Camelfords, the Wynnes, and the Gilstons. In fact, the Temple's intimacy, like the house of Hapsburg, with the oldest as well as the richest houses, and hence their prodigious success. During his second vicereignty the Marquis of Buckingham was very popular with the Roman Catholic party in Ireland. He was accompanied to his new government by the Marchioness, the eldest daughter and heir of Lord Nugent, who was a Roman Catholic in creed, and this lady rendered herself extremely popular among her conditionists by acts of kindness and beneficence. On retiring from Ireland, in the summer of 1789, the Marquis of Buckingham continued to support the Administration of Mr. Pitt; but, being disappointed in his expectation of a dukedom, he became lukewarm, and afterwards took little part in public affairs. He continued to live at his magnificent residence at Stowe, playing the part of a grand seigneur in a style of princely hospitality, and there he received and lodged, at his own heavy cost and charge, for a considerable time, not only the Courts de Provence and d'Artois (afterwards Louis XVIII. and Charles X.), but their suites and many of the principal emigrants and clergy. Apartments were also assigned to the Ducs de Berry, Orleans, and Beaujolais, and a table was provided for the Royal party distinguished for its sumptuousness. Ill, however, was this hospitality, which entailed on the Marquis an expenditure of many hundreds of thousands of pounds, required by the elder Bourbons. Like Lord Huntley and many others, English and Scotch, the Duke of Buckingham had to experience gross and flagrant ingratitude; for, when the father of the late Duke visited Paris in 1814, and at subsequent periods, the Royal family of France did not show him those attentions which civility, not to speak of gratitude, required at their hands. "Noblesse oblige" is a trite motto, which is still more applicable to Royal houses.

In 1805 Stowe was the scene of still greater festivities than those lavished on the Bourbons. The heir-apparent to the throne—the Prince of Wales—was there received in great state, as well as the Duke of Clarence, Mr. Fox, and all the members of the Grenville and Whig parties. Eight hundred persons were invited to these entertainments, which continued for several days; and the extensive gardens and immense grounds were illuminated with 15,000 lamps, at an unheard-of expense. As though this profusion were not sufficient, in 1809 the French Princes were again received and entertained at Stowe with the most lavish hospitality. We mention these things to prove that this system of profusion led to that immense increase of expenditure, exceeding income, which ultimately crippled the resources of the first Duke and ruined the fortunes of the second. The first Marquis died at Stowe, the pride of Buckinghamshire—a place which had been created by Lord Cobham and improved by his nephew, Earl Temple—on the 11th of February, 1813. He was succeeded by his eldest son, who had been member for Bucks from 1797 till 1813, and who thus continued to represent the county for sixteen long years, till the demise of his father. In maintaining the position and status of county member, and in elections, the first Duke of Buckingham spent a sum of money which we have heard estimated at £100,000; and a still larger sum, which we have heard estimated at £150,000, in equipping and clothing for more than a decade, at his own expense, a corps of yeomanry cavalry. On becoming a member of the House of Peers, in 1813, the Marquis of Buckingham conceived that it became him to play a leading part. He was younger, more ambitious, and more vigorous in health than his kinsman, Earl Grenville, who had filled the highest offices, who had been Speaker of the Commons, Paymaster-General, Secretary for the Home and Foreign Departments, President of the Board of Control, and First Lord of the Treasury; he was in better health and more self-seeking than Thomas Grenville, who had been First Lord of the Admiralty, Ambassador to Berlin, and who, after a long life of credit and honour, died only a few years ago, a nonagenarian, as a retired Teller of the Exchequer. But, notwithstanding the efforts of the Marquis of Buckingham to make an Opposition or a Ministry, and to constitute himself leader of it, he was in a great degree unsuccessful. The feeble health and quiet "passivity," to use a phrase common in Edinburgh, of Lord Grenville afforded to the Marquis of Buckingham ample room and verge enough to operate in the Lords; but he was not a loved or lovable man. He was as selfish and imperious as the first Earl Temple, and the consequence was that his party consisted only of the late Charles Wynne, of the Exchequer, and the late Dr. Joseph Phillimore. Subsequently, at the era of the Manchester massacre, it was formally joined by Mr. Plunket, the member for Dublin University, afterwards Lord Plunket, the most powerful debater of his day; and, in consequence principally of the debt given to the party by the speech of Mr. Plunket on the affair of Peterloo, the Marquis of Buckingham was created Duke of Buckingham and Chandos in February, 1822.

He then and antecedently attempted to make himself the Corymbus of a great political scheme, and opened negotiations with the late Marquis of Wellesley to that intent; but no one had confidence in the capacity or talent of these feeble Duke, who had obtained for himself a strawberry leaf; and the result was that the Buckingham party became conspicuous only by its weakness, notwithstanding the countenance of Lord Grenville and the addition of consummate adroitness and great ability as Mr. Plunket. At the period of the death of Lord Castlereagh by his own hand the Duke of Buckingham fancied he might assume a leading position and obtain a considerable, if not a preponderating, influence in the councils of the King; but, failing in this, his Grace retired to obtain the governor-generalship of India and to succeed Mr. Canning in a post which that statesman no longer coveted; but in this, as Canning wrote to his friend Earl Grenville, at Paris, the "phantom Duke" (if you like, as Canning wrote the "phantom" with the Greek  $\phi$ ) was disappointed, and Lord W. Bentinck was properly named to the important office. At this period his Grace must have been aware that the extravagance of his father and his own expenditure had ruined the estates of his family; but, nevertheless, his ambitious projects did not diminish, and he still continued to look for the highest State employments. But he looked in vain; and when his Grace died, in 1839, he was without office of any kind.

THE DUC D'ANJALME'S PAMPHLET.—M. Gautier, formerly a professor in the College of St. Barthelemy, and now tutor to the Duc de Nemours' children, was tried in Paris lately on a charge of having introduced into France three copies of the Duc d'Anjalme's pamphlet entitled "Lettre sur l'histoire de France." It appeared that the scholastic education of the Duc de Nemours' two sons being finished, their father desired to place them at the artillery school at St. Gervais, in Spain, and inasmuch as they, being members of a proscribed family, could not pass through France, they were sent round by sea. But M. Gautier, who was requested to attend them in Spain, wished to take the opportunity of seeing his friends in France, and accordingly landed at Boulogne with his luggage, among which there were a great many books and three numbers of the incriminated pamphlet. The Court held that the intention to show the books in France did not sufficiently appear, and it pronounced a verdict of acquittal, directing, however, the confiscation of the three copies seized.

THE BUSINESS OF THE DIVORCE COURT.—Since the commencement of Trinity term this Court has disposed of 111 cases, of which 33 were tried by jury. Besides these, a number of others have been partly heard or have been postponed by the parties themselves, so that of the 153 on the list there only remain 23 which have not been called on. Since the commencement of the legal year, in November last, the Judge Ordinary (in addition to a vast number of motions) has tried 201 divorce petitions and two petitions for a declaration of legitimacy. He has also disposed of 59 testamentary causes. He has also pronounced 161 decrees for the dissolution of marriages, and 10 for judicial separation, besides two declarations of nullity; 25 petitions have failed. There have been the usual proportion of heavy suits, and two of what may be termed "monster cases"—namely, Mrs. Schadden's petition for a declaration of legitimacy and the Traherne will cause, the former of which occupied fourteen days, and the latter eleven. Had these been of moderate length the Court could easily have been able to dispose of all the business before it. As it is, the learned Judge has tried petitions which were not filed till December. The number of new cases already set down for hearing next term is 10. The Court may thus be said to have practically cleared off the heavy list of arrears which had accumulated before the Divorce Act was amended so as to allow the Judge Ordinary to dissolve marriages when sitting alone. This result has not, however, been attained without severe labour; and on Saturday Sir C. Cresswell remarked that he had sat a greater number of days during the last year than any other Judge in Westminster Hall.

A GERMAN EMPIRE.—It is stated that the National Union of Germany are about to revive in distinct form the project for the establishment of a great German empire. A general conference is about to be held at Coburg, at which, it is said, the scheme is to be definitely put forward. This time, however, if the rumours are reliable, there is to be no preliminary acquiescing with the Sovereign of Prussia. The choice of an Emperor is to be left an open question, to be decided by a competition of claims and merits among all the Princes—including even the poorest and least-of-Germany.

BRANCH-LOADERS.—It is stated that 5000 branch-loading rifles on the principle of Mr. Westley Richards have been ordered by the Government. It is not yet known to what troops they will be issued, but it is probable they will soon be brought to a severe experimental service test. The weapon is in high favour with many officers who have had the opportunity of firing with it during the late public matches.

\* The number polled was 10,989. In 1832 Mr. Grote alone polled 8412, and altogether about 15,000 must have voted. The number of electors in 1832 was 15,321; now it stands at 19,026.



## LORD HERBERT OF LEA.

MR. SIDNEY HERBERT entered the House of Commons in 1832 as member for South Wiltshire. He was one of the first members for this division after the county had been divided by the Reform Bill. In 1841 he became Secretary to the Admiralty under Sir Robert Peel's premiership, and held the office till 1845. In the latter year he was made Secretary for War. Thus far down in Mr. Herbert's career he was a Conservative and Protectionist. His first speech in Parliament, made on the 20th of June, 1834, was against the admission of the Dissenters into the Universities; and in 1842 he strongly opposed the proposal of the Whigs to substitute a fixed duty of 8s. upon foreign corn for the sliding scale. But when Sir Robert Peel deserted Protection Mr. Sidney Herbert followed in the wake of his patron, and when he was taunted by Lord March with having changed his views he boldly confessed that, after mature deliberation, he had been compelled to support the doctrine of Free Trade. Thus, then, was the ice of Conservatism broken; and thenceforth Mr. Herbert, like Mr. Gladstone, the Duke of Newcastle, and others who had attached themselves to Sir Robert Peel, gradually drifted from his old associates and opinions, and at last joined the Liberal party. After the passing of the Corn-law Repeal Act the Peel Government was dissolved, and Mr. Herbert, of course, went out of office. This was in 1846. Lord John Russell then became Premier, and formed a Whig Government; but at that time the Peelites were not sufficiently advanced to join the Whigs; and when, in 1852, Lord Derby came into power they were too much advanced to attach themselves to him. In short, for some time they were an isolated party, too free for the Derbyites and too conservative for the Whigs; perhaps, also, personal feeling had something to do with their isolation. But in December 1852 a *locus standi* was found for them; for then it was that the Earl of Aberdeen—one of themselves—was called upon by her Majesty to make a Government, and succeeded in forming what has been called "the Coalition Ministry." In this Government Mr. Sidney Herbert took his old place as Secretary for War; and it is probable that he would have continued to hold that office till now without interruption, except the short time in which the Derbyites again came into office, in 1858, until the present time. But in 1854 came the Russian War, that war which damaged, for a time at least, the reputation of so many statesmen. Into the event of this crisis we cannot enter further than to say that in January, 1855, Mr. Roebuck moved and carried a motion for a Committee of Inquiry into the causes of the disasters in the Crimea; and that the Aberdeen Government came to an end. The Ministry was then reconstructed by Lord Palmerston with nearly the same materials, and for a time Mr. Sidney Herbert, the inquiry notwithstanding, bravely stuck to his post. He felt, however, obliged to resign at last; and he remained out of office until 1859, when he again resumed his place under the present chief of the Ministry. We have said that the Russian War damaged the reputation of many a statesman; but it is but fair to say that no charge of neglect or mismanagement was brought home to Mr. Herbert. On the contrary, he at least had been active, zealous, and conscientious. In the beginning of this year Mr. Herbert was called to the House of Peers by the title of Lord Herbert of Lea. His health had failed. It was hoped, however, that, by getting rid of his House of Commons' duties, he could still perform those of his office, and hence his somewhat premature elevation to the peerage. Mr. Herbert's retirement from the House of Commons



LORD HERBERT OF LEA,

was a great loss to the Government; for, like all the Peelites, he is a man of great abilities and an effective debater. He is not so eloquent as Gladstone, nor so severely trenchant and close a

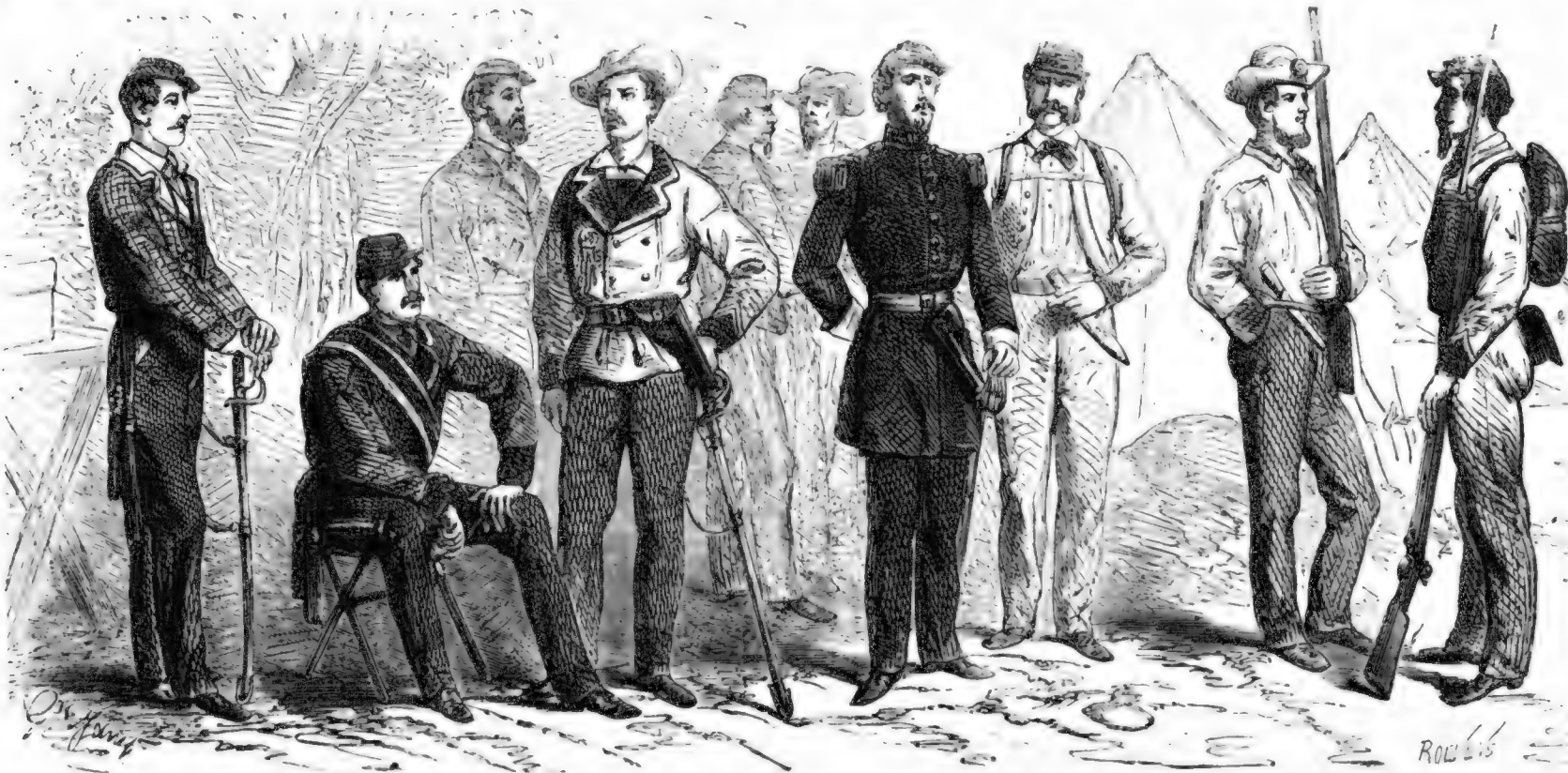
reasoner as Sir James Graham; but still he was eloquent, clear, logical, and effective, and his retirement is much regretted. Lord Herbert was born in 1810. He is the son of the eleventh Earl of Pembroke, by his second wife, the daughter of Simon, Count Woronzow, of Russia; and was educated at Harrow and Oriel College, Oxford, where he was fourth class in classics. In 1816 he married the daughter of Major-General d'Court. In person, before illness marred his form, Lord Herbert was an extremely handsome man—tall, well made, with fine features, lighted up by large, intelligent eyes, and of a stately but graceful bearing. But when we last saw him he was much changed. Of Lord Herbert's private character everybody speaks well. He is kind, easy of access, and very charitable. Whilst at the War Office he introduced many valuable reforms, and many of the comforts which the soldiers now enjoy are owing to the thoughtful care of Lord Herbert. It was he, it will be remembered, that permitted Florence Nightingale to proceed on her mission to the Crimea. Indeed, in promoting the welfare of all under his care, his energies and those of his lady have been untiring. Lord Herbert has just returned from a journey to the Continent in search of health, but he is not improved, and has been compelled reluctantly to resign his office.

## FEDERAL VOLUNTEERS IN THE CAMP "DEFIANCE."

THE camp Defiance at Cairo has been an important point for a very long time past, for here are stationed a various body of troops, under the command of General Prentiss, who, occupying a position opposite the Kentucky shore and within a short distance from a moving body of Secessionist troops, was compelled to be continually on the alert. In the ground-floor room of the hotel, which was General Prentiss's head-quarters, might be seen the representatives of his varied force—English, Scotch, Hungarian, and German—the latter forming a considerable body. The 700 men lately sent out by the General against a reported body of Missouri Southern troops were singularly unlike in arms and uniform, but they acted admirably in their evolutions, and were evidently well drilled, while their officer, Colonel Morgan, had seen service in the Mexican war, and is said to be a skilful as well as a brave and prudent commander. Amongst the troops were many old soldiers, Germans and Hungarians; and, notwithstanding the want of uniformity in their appearance, all the men seemed well set up, cheerful, and soldierlike.

## "A TOUCH SUBJECT."

Yes, one of the toughest, and yet, from the look of him, "more easy to bend than to break." In the eye that regards that tumbler of water and slice of bread there is certainly no repentance, scarcely even remorse, for having forfeited the good things which are even now being enjoyed in the comfortable dining-room. Solitude may, perhaps, do something, especially if a word of kindness, mingled with gentle reproof, come not too late upon his weary leisure; but at present he is bound to be miserable, and will doubtless scorn the scanty meal so relentlessly purveyed to him, rejoicing in what he conceives to be a martyrdom. Let him alone until the first fever has subsided, and then a mother's voice may melt even the toughest subject into tears. We have still some hope for him, since his paroxysm is too violent to last.



THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.—A GROUP OF FEDERAL VOLUNTEERS IN THE CAMP OF GENERAL PRENTISS.



## AN ORIGINAL PICTURE BY ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST.

M. SZERELMEY, the ingenious gentleman whose plans for arresting the decay of the new Houses of Parliament by the application of a selicious coating to the stone have recently excited attention, has still more decided claims to public notice from his being the fortunate possessor (as we learn from his dissertation, published by Mr. Dolman) of an original portrait of the Blessed Virgin and the Infant Christ, painted by St. Luke the Evangelist. The circumstances under which this (if genuine) unique monument of early Christian art came into his possession, the characteristic features of the picture itself, and the conclusions to be drawn from the Chaldaic and Greek inscriptions on the same, are all given in M. Szerelmey's historical description with great fullness of detail, and will be found to furnish matter for much speculation. The picture may or may not be a genuine picture, but, at all events, M. Szerelmey's account of it is very amusing.

The portrait of Jesus Maria Hodegedria came into M. Szerelmey's possession just thirty-two years ago, and rewarded

the piety which had dictated a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. M. Szerelmey embarked at Ancona on the 12th of January, 1829, in company with several friends, on his route for Palestine. While there, the whole party arrived, under the convoy of a great caravan, on the 20th of June, at the valley of Hebron, and on the 24th reached the coast of Seder. There they met another caravan. One of the travellers in this second caravan recommended to their care a sick monk whom his companions were compelled to leave behind in a Bedouin village. M. Szerelmey found this monk in a very alarming state, caused by a cough and expectoration of blood, which were hurrying him rapidly to the grave. He succeeded, however, in conveying him to Alexandria, and afterwards, at his urgent request, brought him on board the vessel in which he was himself bound for Ancona. But Father Isaac, so he was called, was not destined to reach the Italian shores. On the third day after their departure a violent storm arose, and, as the motion of the vessel made the invalid very ill, his condition became hourly worse. "We young people, who waited at his couch by turns, did all we could to alleviate his sufferings; but the violence of the cough and expectoration, which was now redoubled, seemed to indicate an approaching dissolution." Accordingly, on the 21st of July the monk died, bequeathing to M. Szerelmey, as his friend and benefactor, a leathern pouch which he always kept under his head as a pillow, and which was, indeed, his only property.

The body of the monk was consigned to the deep; and, says M. Szerelmey, "The solemn stillness which prevailed in the vessel after the brief ceremony was over was interrupted by the loud voice of the captain, who warned me to take possession of my legacy, as he intended to throw the bedding used by the deceased into the sea. Indignant at this discourteous interruption to my meditations, more particularly in the presence of my friends, I ordered my servant to throw the pouch and its contents overboard, and was informed by him shortly afterwards that my orders had been obeyed. Our voyage now gradually approached its termination, and on the 10th of August we arrived safe at Ancona. After we had passed quarantine, my fellow-travellers dispersed immediately upon landing, and proceeded to Rome. When I had taken up my quarters in a hotel I discovered among the luggage a leathern pouch that strongly resembled the one bequeathed to me by the Greek monk. On inquiring of my servant how it came there, he stammered out an excuse, saying that he had been prevented from obeying my orders by observing, just as he was preparing to throw the pouch into the water, that it contained some hard substance besides articles of clothing, and had therefore resolved to keep it for a time, that on a more favourable opportunity he might more closely examine its contents. Such an opportunity had not occurred, and he entreated me to let him examine the box in my presence. As I myself was rendered somewhat curious by his narrative, we opened the pouch, and my servant took out the following articles:—Two old woollen shirts, two worn-out pocket-handkerchiefs, two Greek prayer-books, and a red cap. These were followed by another woollen shirt, in which were enveloped a metal cup black with rust, and an antique monsternace, likewise of metal, containing twenty-four small pieces of bone, with Greek inscriptions. At last came another small packet, wrapped in wool, and containing a picture of the Madonna with the Infant Christ, painted upon metal, the outline of which could scarcely

be discovered through a thick coating of soot. In a small wooden box were some inlaid rosaries, and in an old book cover were a piece of parchment and a paper inscribed with Greek letters."

M. Szerelmey's first idea was to give all this rubbish to his servant, but, on second thoughts, he took the picture, the cup, and the monsternace to one of the first dealers in antiquities in Rome, who said they were of little value, but was willing to give him 30 ducats as the price of the metal. The same dealer, however, called on him next morning to offer him—first, 50 ducats and 100 sequins. This raised M. Szerelmey's curiosity: he submitted the articles to the inspection of another connoisseur, when the black, rusty cup was found to be of silver, the monsternace, also of silver and deeply gilt, to belong to the fourteenth or fifteenth century, and the pieces of bone to be, as the inscription stated, relics of saints and martyrs who had perished in Palestine. About this time Cardinal Mezzofanti happened to be at Rome. His wish to purchase the articles was but partially complied with by M. Szerelmey, who sold the monsternace, but retained the other relics. His prudence and caution met with their just

burns me. . . . When Jesus Christ has forgiven my sins I shall go to Him and to my brethren, who in great joy dwell with the grace of God and the Mother of God in Heaven. . . . I came into the world, through Jesus' will, without possessions, and so shall I depart from this earth to wherever my brethren lay me. . . . Give to thee, my brother Zacharias, all that I possess, because I shall be in heaven in glory. . . . I give thee the Holy Cross, which I love. I take it into my hand and weep over Jesus Christ until I go to sleep in eternity. . . . I give thee the holy face of Jesus Maria Hodegedria, which the holy Evangelist Luke has finished, which I love, and in which I die, as the holy Mother of God has died in it. . . . Pray as I pray until death, then wilt thou be freed from all venomous disease and from all their enemies. They will not find thee, even as the Holy Virgin, Mother of God, and Jesus were not found by the accursed infidels, because they were concealed in a stone case and covered with water for 800 years in Constantine's well, where they were discovered by the pious brothers Nicola and Elias. . . . I give thee the cup, which I love and drink from it, at the fountain of

Mary [here the MS. is illegible] . . . devil accursed, come to the mercy of God. . . . Pray for me—pray for my sins. I pray for thee and for thy sins, through Jesus Maria Hodegedria, to eternity. \*Thy brother Azarias.\*"

M. Szerelmey favours us with the following description of the picture itself, quoting a well-known passage from Nicephorus, after Epiphanius, to prove the correspondence between the original and the portrait:—"The Virgin Mary was of a middle stature, though some place her above it. Her complexion was like the colour of corn; her hair was yellow; her eyes (which were of an olive yellow) were bright and piercing, her eyebrows were arched and inclining to black, her nose was rather long, her lips were full, overflowing with sweetness of language. The face was not round, but oval, and her hands and fingers were somewhat long."

Compare with this passage M. Szerelmey's description of the picture itself:—

"The picture is painted on a copper plate, ten inches by eight in size, and represents Maria Hodegedria (the guide), with the child Jesus, as mentioned in the Gospel of St. Luke, and here painted with his own hand.

"In the conception and treatment of this picture the character of the Greek painters during the first century B.C. is discernible, expressing, with tolerable plainness, the later tendency of the Greek art towards the representation of the Divine. In the execution of the work, which is distinguished by much carefulness and harmony, a correctness of drawing, such as can only be based on due knowledge of form, is not to be expected, nor is the general effect at all diminished by the circumstance that we perceive a growing tendency to shapelessness in the legs of the child. All this belongs to the period of St. Luke the Evangelist, who, being an amateur in painting, merely walked in the paths of his predecessors. The colouring is rich and carefully studied, as though the artist deemed it essential to a faithful imitation of nature, and sought by a blending of hues to manifest to posterity the divine beauty that had floated before him. The whole gives evidence of a labour undertaken with love and accomplished with pious care, and is, moreover, a proof of the versatility of St. Luke's genius, of which, indeed, we are informed in the history of his life.

"The Heavenly Virgin is here represented in a dark red garment, embroidered with small stars. About her head is twined a handkerchief of similar colour, which hangs down, and beneath which the forepart of the right arm, with the hand, and the closely fitting under garment, are visible. On her left arm she bears the infant Christ, wrapped in a white under garment, with a gold-coloured mantle over it. He is raising his right hand, as in the act of benediction, and placing his left on his mother. An expression of indescribable loveliness is in his features, and in severe majesty does the spark of future greatness plainly beam from his beautiful eyes. The innocent, lovely face of the Holy Virgin, upon which is breathed an irresistible charm, comes out from the background with wonderful clearness through the warmth of its tone, and all that is most tender and lovely in woman's soul is concentrated in her gentle eyes."

But the revelations obtained from the manuscript will of the Greek monk were quite unimportant when compared with those derived from the Chaldaic inscriptions, painted in a light brown colour on the picture itself. They consist of pious ejaculations, and come, M.



A TOUGH SUBJECT—(FROM A PICTURE BY F. SMALLFIELD.)

reward. Judge of his surprise when the translation made by—as he affirms—competent scholars of the Greek characters on the old parchment revealed the following last will and testament. M. Szerelmey learned from the contents of this will, written probably by some pious monk, a predecessor of Father Isaac, that he had, in so unexpected a manner, become the proprietor of the original picture of Jesus Maria Hodegedria, painted by St. Luke the Evangelist, and the earliest specimen of Christian art in existence; for the fortunate owner, with a pardonable feeling of jealousy towards all the other pictures ascribed to the same venerated artist, leaves it clearly to be inferred that they are all humbugs, and that his alone can lay claim to being the genuine article. The language of the will is as follows:—

"I go to Golgotha, where Jesus Christ suffered, and where Mary, the Mother of God, and Mary Magdalene wept so that blood flowed from their eyes. I go to Jesus Christ, because I can live no longer in this sinful world. . . . I weep for my sins, eat no bread when I am an hungered, and drink no water when the sun



Szerelmey is quite positive, from the hand of St. Luke himself, who painted the picture and, "as the first owner of it, took upon himself the right of expressing, by pious ejaculations written upon it (in conformity, it seems, with the custom of the time), the direction of his mind, and his veneration for the persons whose portrait he painted." On the back of his pencil was to preserve "or future generations." On the back of the picture are other inscriptions, written at very different times by different persons, the two earliest sentences being, M. Szerelmey thinks, by St. John, in whose possession the picture remained after the Virgin's death. A later inscription he attributes to Polycarp. Then follow other sentences in the characters of the fourth century. This leaves rather a large blank in the story. In the last sentences the name of Macarius occurs, so M. Szerelmey conjectures that the picture had probably been saved from destruction by a friend of Polycarp; that it probably ceased to be the property of a single individual, but was held by Bishop Macarius in trust for the whole congregation of Smyrna. This original idea receives an unexpected illustration in the curious coincidence of its being now held by the London Joint-stock Bank, 69 Pall-mall—an arrangement, we regret to say, more conducive to the security of the relic than to the convenience of the public; for, whilst that respectable company possess the case, not a living soul can see the picture in consequence of M. Szerelmey keeping the key.

"The narrative of M. Szerelmey goes on to say:—'Later inscriptions record its possession in the time of the Crusades, when the owners or keepers saw no better means of preserving from the Saracens an original picture by St. Luke than by sinking it to the bottom of a cistern, probably situated near a church or convent. That the picture remained in its place of concealment for many centuries is evident from the circumstance that during a long period no mention is made of it, and that after a careful examination of the archives that were known to me I could not find any trace of its existence. The same inference may be drawn likewise from the will of Azarias, previously cited, as this was made about the fifteenth century, and obviously refers to the discovery of the picture by Nicola and Elias, as an event of somewhat recent occurrence.'"

Of the inscriptions of which M. Szerelmey has favoured us in his pamphlet with facsimiles the *Post* observes "that scholars whose acquaintance with Oriental and Byzantine characters is beyond all question entertain the opinion that some of the Greek inscriptions suggest a most suspiciously Russian origin; though, as regards the Chaldean characters, they quite agree with M. Szerelmey in their being 'only intelligible to a few of the initiated.'"

## OPERA AND CONCERTS.

### CLOSE OF THE SEASON.

THIS week brings to a termination the Italian Opera season at Covent Garden, and the evidence of facts, as well as of accredited report, tends to establish a belief that Mr. Gye has prospered exceedingly. The plan of giving four nights instead of three was adopted in the middle of the season, and was continued throughout a period when musical attractions are generally on the wane, and when managers are accustomed to contrive any decent excuse for curtailing rather than augmenting the number of performances. The unexpected success of Mdle. Patti had a great deal to do with the institution of a fourth night in each week; but her popularity was not the only cause of this innovation on operative rules. "Guillaume Tell," though the least attractive of Rossini's operas (being the best), justified by the event all the extraordinary care lavished on its production this year, and actually drew full audiences whenever it was played. The "Prophète" has never failed to bring an overflow, and, revived as it was in an early part of the season now closed, the only wonder is that Mr. Gye did not feel constrained to rest more frequently on its sure attraction. Mdme. Rosa Csilag, the Fides of the year, left rather abruptly after a short but brilliant course of performances, of which her Donna Elvira was not the least admirable. This part has since been assumed by Mdme. Tiberini; and the Magyar prima donna's place in the "Prophète" is filled, on the last night of the season, by Mdme. Nanfret-Didé, who has never before appeared as Fides in the presence of a London audience. Changes of cast have not been confined to the "Prophète," but, owing to the departure of Mdme. Miolan-Carvalho as well as Mdme. Csilag, have marked this season's career of the "Barbière" and other operas. Signor Ciampi having joined the Covent Garden forces, has been playing Dr. Bartolo; and the Rosina of Mdme. Miolan has given place to little Miss Patti's performance of that Spanish type of the *ingenue*, while Signor Mario has succeeded Signor Tiberini as the Count Almaviva. The success of the new tenor has certainly been rather overshadowed by that of Mdle. Patti; but he has, nevertheless, kept his ground, if he has not advanced far in popularity. His voice, which may be defined as a mixed tenor, being partly chest and partly head, is not free from occasional harshness; but he has it completely under control, and his management of the falsetto is especially artistic.

The operas produced this season by Mr. Gye have been in number sixteen. The "Prophète," with which he concludes, was the opening performance, Signor Tambrlik giving as dramatic a version of Jean de Leyden as Signor Mario's famous impersonation of the pseudo-prophet. Mdme. Csilag fully realised all that was expected of her in Fides. If anything had been wanting to confirm her in the highest estimation of musical judges, the deficiency was supplied by her performance of a great tragic character in which the powers of Grisi and Viardot had culminated. Mdme. Csilag also made a decidedly good impression as Leonora, in "La Favorita," the Fernando being Signor Tiberini. "Rigoletto" afforded Mdme. Miolan a new opening in the part of Gilda, which she played very charmingly, singing the music to perfection. After several postponements, but still in the prime of the season, "Guillaume Tell" was produced with a completeness wonderful even at the Royal Italian Opera. The principal singers were Mdme. Miolan, Mdme. Rudersdorff, M. Faure, and Signor Tambrlik; but the strength of the opera did not lie in details of excellence so much as in totality. The grandeur and beauty of Rossini's music had never received such simple justice at the hands of a great body of exponents. The "Puritani," following in the wake of "Guillaume Tell," served to establish Signor Tiberini's position. Shortly after this "Don Giovanni" was brought out with consummate excellence of ensemble—M. Faure re-entraining the Don in a manner personally to remind the audience of Signor Mario, while, of course, the restoration of the music to its original key was a step of which everybody approved. Mdme. Penco was the Donna Anna, Mdme. Csilag the Donna Elvira, and Mdme. Miolan the Zerlina; while the male personages of the scene were as ably represented by Signor Tambrlik, Herr Formes, Signor Ronconi, and Signor Tagliacchi, besides M. Faure, already mentioned. The Leporello of Herr Formes is well known as one of his most powerful and elaborate pieces of acting; but the appearance of Ronconi in the clownish part of Masetto was new to the public. He made more of it than any artist had made before, dramatically speaking; but Signor Ronconi's little remaining voice has hardly served him so well this year even as last, and certain parts of "Don Giovanni" suffered from this cause. The principal modification in the cast of the opera has been the replacement of Mdme. Miolan by Mdle. Patti in Zerlina; and it will be observed that this is one of two instances of the same change of singers during the season. The début of Mdle. Patti in Amina will be remembered as a leading event, and her success in "La Sonnambula" was very soon ratified in "Lucia di Lammermoor." She has since assumed other characters quite as triumphantly, the latest being that of Rosina in the "Barbière di Siviglia," which was essayed by her for the first time on Saturday. We have not space now at command to enter into the merits of this performance, but we may say that the

young lady's high reputation will not suffer loss by it. The music, to be sure, was written for a mezzo-soprano; but one has almost forgotten that circumstance from hearing so many high soprano in the part. Mdle. Patti introduced, as the *ad libitum* show-piece of the singing-lesson scene, a new ballad, written for her, and entitled "The Gipsy Maid." This little song was not quite showy enough for the situation, and will be more in place in drawing-rooms than on the stage of the Italian Opera. The production of Verdi's newest work, "Un Ballo in Maschera," is fresh in the recollection of our readers, and those who have not witnessed its representation will probably do so next year. The remaining operas to be mentioned as having been produced, with all requisite accessories, in the past season are the "Trovatore," "Luceria Borgia," "Norma," and the "Huguenots." In the first of these four Mdme. Grisi relinquished her honours to Mdme. Penco, whose Leonora was supported by the Marquis of Signor Tambrlik. The other works are identified with the retirement of the great Italian songstress, as they have been with her glorious career.

On Wednesday, in a farewell festival at the Crystal Palace, Mdme. Grisi took final leave of the London public. A space in front of the great Handel orchestra was inclosed and appropriately decorated. The word "Addio" was emblazoned in the centre, and the names of many operas in which Grisi has charmed English ears for more than a quarter of a century, coming back summer after summer, without one disappointment of eager expectation, were ranged on each side. The full strength of the Covent Garden company, under Mr. Costa's leadership, was brought into requisition, the Crystal Palace band being absorbed in that of the Royal Italian Opera. Mdme. Grisi first sang, with Signor Mario, "Un tenore core," from Donizetti's "Roberto Devereux." Her next performance was a solo, the famous aria, "Oh, mio Fernando!" from "La Favorita." The duet with Mdme. Didée, "Ebben a te," recalled the triumphs of the great prima donna in "S-miramide." Lastly, Mdme. Grisi took part with Mdme. Rudersdorff, Mdme. Didée, and the chorus in Rossini's noble finale "La Carità." A whole conservatory of bouquets was thrown at the feet of the departing favourite, and the transport of the Crystal Palace resounded with shouts and clapping of hands, when, looking round for the last time on her worshippers, she smiled a grateful but sad farewell.

## CAPTAIN SNOW AND THE ENDEAVOUR.

Captain Snow writes us as follows:—

The delay occasioned by trying to get the additional small sum required for our more efficient equipment has been such as to make it very doubtful about getting through the middle ice this season. I am, therefore, reluctantly compelled to follow the advice and wishes of many persons interested in and supporting my undertaking, by relinquishing the northern route this year. This does not prevent me trying the original plan by Behring Strait; and as the vessel, with all her material, &c., has been kept by me free from debt (paying, as I do, everything weekly), there will be no difficulty in proceeding upon my voyage whenever I can—by my own means or otherwise—obtain what more is required.

Meanwhile I shall not be idle, but intend turning the vessel to some useful purpose in connection with science or exploration.

At any time I shall be happy to meet the friends who have aided me in this effort to do more concerning the lost expedition, and thanking them, with the press generally, for all kindly feeling displayed,

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Newcastle, July 30.

W. PARKER SNOW.

Said Bey.—The correspondence relating to Syria, which has just been laid before Parliament, gives an account of a visit paid to Said Bey, the late Druse chief, by Lord Dufferin, who, being convinced of his innocence, and learning that the suspense and misery of imprisonment in daily expectation of a death-warrant was rapidly developing consumption, had prevailed on Ebad Pacha to mitigate the rigours of his imprisonment, and had sent him also at the earliest moment an assurance that his life was safe. The interview took place on the 5th of May. The chief was evidently dying. He appeared surprised at being addressed in his own language, and said most emphatically, as if in fear of personal injury, "Are you friends?" On being answered in the affirmative, he pointed to Lord Dufferin, and asked whom he had the pleasure to see, and, on being informed, tried to rise from his sofa to kiss his Lordship's hand, at the same time expressing his gratitude and his deep sense of the honour of a personal interview with his benefactor. One of the guards who understood Arabic having been made to retire, Lord Dufferin said he should like to have a frank answer to his question, whether the Druses had received any encouragement from the Turkish Government during the late occurrences? Said Bey answered, with apparent sincerity and willingness, that the intrigues emanated from the Christians; that the Druses of the Yezbeck (a rival) faction opposed them, and made war; that he himself foresaw the difficulties, and wrote to the Government, saying that unless he were provided with due support matters would become very serious, and, after repeated applications, he received an answer that a Pacha had been sent to D. ir-el-Kamar, and an officer to Z. ich, who had full orders to prevent an outbreak; that Tahir Pacha accordingly arrived in D. ir-el-Kamar, but demanded from Said Bey a guarantee for the security of the town, which the other refused to give, and thereupon Tahir Pacha left, though he (Said Bey) begged him to remain, saying that if he left there would be a massacre; and, moreover, he sent to the notables of the town, advising them also to beg the Pacha to remain. Said Bey acknowledged that he was acquainted with no document that could prove the complicity of the Turkish Government, but implied that the Yezbeck, or more violent section of the Druses, knew probably more than he did. At the close of the conversation he said he had to ask one favour—namely, that upon his recovery he should be allowed to go to England, there to live and die, as he had already seen too much of the Ottoman Government. On Lord Dufferin saying that that might take place, he kissed his hand again, and expressed his thanks. When Lord Dufferin rose to leave the apartment, Said Bey rose also, and would have followed him to the door, but was held back and prevented from such exertion. He died in the course of the week.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—A correspondent of the *Times* says:—"On the 28th of June last Captain Rhodes of the cod-smack *R. solution*, of London, accompanied by the Adventure, Captain G. Under, of Gravesend, returned from the Faroe Islands and Iceland clean, after a trial of six weeks, reporting that the fishing at Faroe this year was a failure, and all the smacks had gone to Iceland, where the fish were very scarce and in very poor condition; and he informed the writer that he now intended to go and try a place called Rockall, 360 miles west by south of this island, and his reason for going there in preference to remaining in Iceland arose from the following conversation he had with the mate of an Irish vessel about fifteen years ago. They had been messmates together some years before that in a man-of-war, and upon Captain Rhodes informing his old comrade that he was captain of a cod-smack, and went every summer to the North Sea to fish cod—"The North Sea be blowed!" says the ancient mariner; "you don't know where to catch cod, you don't. Go to Rockall, where there is a bank eighty miles in length swarming with fish. I have been two or three times becalmed there, and caught cod as big as donkeys and as plenty as blackberries." Upon that information Captain Rhodes noted. He had often thought of trying it, but it is a lonely place to go to alone, St. Kilda being the nearest land, and that 130 miles off; so he persuaded Captain Gardner to accompany him. Accordingly the two vessels sailed from the North Isles on the 2nd of July, and to the astonishment of all conversant with cod-fishing, they returned again on the 13th of July, the one having caught nearly 15 tons, the other 12 tons of the largest cod-fish ever seen, many of them weighing when caught 1 cwt., thus having (in value here) each caught above £100 worth of cod in five days' fishing. Captain Rhodes informs me that they caught the fish as fast as they could bait and haul; and when any of the cod came from the hook great monstrous sharks, as blue as if painted with a brush, darted round the ship's side, and swallowed them in an instant. The very seabirds were tame, evidently never having been disturbed there by man, some of them flying aboard and eating the offal. The livers of the cod, he states, were also rich, and produced large quantities of oil. I have examined the cod; they are very large and very thick; the tusks are very thick and fat, but shorter than usual, while the ling are the same as those caught at other places.

THE ARM OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.—A commission charged to carry back to Barcelona the right arm of St. John the Baptist left Madrid a few days since. The remarkable relic had been taken from Barcelona, to which place it belongs, to the oratory of the Queen, and the happy accomplishment of her Majesty is ascribed to its influence. This holy relic was the object of great veneration on the part of the pious persons of Madrid all the time it was exposed in the Church of San Francisco el Grande. The nuns were not deprived of the privilege of adoring it, the Venerable Prior Commissioned, accompanied by three members of his order, having visited the precious treasure in each of the twenty-eight chapels of the convents of his capital.

## SHOCKING OCCURRENCE AT CLAPHAM.

THE body of Mrs. Littleton, the wife of a gentleman of independent fortune, was found in the Long Pond on Clapham-common lately, and it became rumoured that she had been murdered by her husband. An inquest was commenced, the evidence given on the first day (the body then not having been identified) being almost confined to that of finding the body in the pond at about five o'clock on the morning of the 22nd ult. by a gentleman who went there for the purpose of fishing. Two witnesses deposed that they heard cries of "Murder!" apparently in the direction of the common. There were no marks of violence on the body of the deceased. An adjournment took place, and on the following day Mr. Littleton came and identified the body as being that of his wife, and it was interred on Saturday, Mr. Littleton assisting at the funeral.

On Monday, on the reassembling of the jury, it was announced that Mr. Littleton had committed self-destruction by cutting his throat on Sunday afternoon.

The first witness called was Mrs. Collins, who stated that she was housekeeper to Mr. Littleton. Her master and mistress were in the dining-room on the afternoon of Sunday week, and when witness came home from church her mistress told her that they had had a few words. Her mistress went out twice in the course of the evening, and at ten o'clock witness went to bed, leaving her master and mistress in the dining-room together. About ten minutes past twelve her master came to her and asked her if her mistress had come home. She told him that she did not know that she had been out. He told her that she had gone out in a great passion, and that he had followed her, but, stopping to close the door against the dog, she had got ahead of him, and he could not tell which way she was gone. He went out again to look for her, but could not find her, and returned at two o'clock. Nothing was heard of her that night.

Michael Hollins, in the service of Mr. Ellis, said he was on the east side of the common on Sunday night at about twelve o'clock. It was a bright moonlight night. He saw a man and woman under the trees, they were violently quarrelling. They were then about thirty yards from him, and about the same distance from the Long Pond. He heard the woman say, "Oh, will you? oh, will you?" The woman wore a light brown dress. They had not hold of each other, but were very close together. He left them under the trees, and went home.

William Barton said he lived on the east side of the common, directly opposite to the Long Pond. On Sunday night, the 21st ult., at about half-past twelve, he was awakened by hearing a loud, long scream. As such noises were often heard on the common he took no further notice, and went to sleep again. Early the next morning he saw the body of Mrs. Littleton taken out of the pond.

Mr. Blewitt, a juror, said, as he was the last person who had any conversation with Mr. Littleton before he committed suicide, he wished to make a statement of what passed between them.

The Coroner said he thought he might receive this evidence, and he was accordingly sworn.

Mr. Blewitt said: I have known Mr. and Mrs. Littleton for six years. They always appeared to live on very affectionate terms. I saw Mr. Littleton on Saturday last, and I followed his wife to the grave on that day. I was in the back parlour after the mourners were gone. Mr. Littleton asked me to come into the front parlour. He said, "You were on the inquest (alluding to the inquest on Mrs. Littleton); what reports have you heard about it?" I said that I had heard many reports. He said, "They say that I pushed her into the pond; but I declare to God I never saw her from the time she left the house until I saw her dead; and I will tell you how it occurred." I said, "The worst is over now." He said, "Oh, no; Monday I dread." I said, "You have nothing to do but speak the truth." He said, "I will tell you how it occurred. It was a most simple thing. I went into the front room after dinner with the paper, and I found a tremor come over me. I felt fainting and could hardly get to the settee. She (Mrs. Littleton) was in the room, and she took no notice of me for some time. After I had come to a little, I said, 'Amelia, how unkind you are!' She looked at me sternly, and said, 'You are always telling me I am unkind.' She got me some water and left the room. She dressed herself and went out. She returned, took off her chains, and left a lock of hair behind her." He said again, "I declare to God I never saw her from that time until her body was found. I went out once and returned, thinking to find her at home. I went out again. I went on to the common, and called her until I was hoarse." I asked him if I should send for his friends, and he said "No," adding, "But Monday I dread." He committed suicide by cutting his throat on Sunday.

The Coroner, in summing up, said he had gone into the case with great care, on account of the rumours which prevailed that Mrs. Littleton had been murdered by her husband by being pushed into the pond; but they had no direct evidence that such was the case, and the cries and quarrelling that were heard on the common might not have come from the two persons who were now dead. Mr. Littleton was beyond any human tribunal, and he would leave the jury to return such a verdict as the evidence would justify them in doing.

After a short consultation the jury returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased came to her death by drowning; but there was no evidence to show how she got into the water."

On Tuesday an inquest was held on the body of Mr. Littleton. Evidence of the finding of the body of the deceased with his throat cut having been given, the jury returned a verdict "That the deceased destroyed his own life whilst in a state of temporary derangement."

THE MELANCHOLY DEATH OF MRS. LONGFELLOW.—The *Boston Daily Advertiser* gives the following particulars of the fatal accident which happened to the wife of Professor Longfellow, at their residence, at Cambridge (U.S.), on the afternoon of the 9th ult. While seated at her library table, making seals for the amusement of her two children, a match or piece of lighted paper caught her dress, and in a moment she was enveloped in flames. Her husband ran to her assistance, and succeeded in extinguishing the flames, with considerable injury to himself, but too late for the rescue of her life. Both of the sufferers were under the influence of ether during the night, and the following morning Mrs. Longfellow rallied a little, but at eleven o'clock she was released from suffering. Mrs. Longfellow leaves five children to mourn their loss. Professor Longfellow's injuries, though serious, are not of a dangerous kind.

AN AGGRAVATED NEIGHBOURHOOD.—A correspondent at Naples gives terrible details of the violent deeds daily perpetrated in the neighbourhood of Naples:—"I shall chronicle two or three of the most striking acts of violence which have been committed lately. We have heard of bandits firing upon the train as it was passing on from Naples to Nola. Then, a few days after the arrival of Calabrian, a party of them visit the hermitage of Santa Maria, at the back of Vesuvius, improvise a fete to celebrate the expected return of Francis II., and descend on the village of Soriano in the plain in the afternoon, drink their glass of wine, kill a man or two who are obnoxious to them, and then retire. The National Guards are too weak to make any resistance; and in the adjoining villages of Pollena, Troscia, and Maseo di Soriano the National Guards, who were disturbed in consequence of disaffection, had not been reconstituted. The hermitage, which was the scene of these exploits, is about eight miles from Naples. But, to bring it nearer home, a friend of mine, who resides in Soriano, four miles only from Naples, relates the following fact, which has just taken place there:—My friend lives close by me. A day or two since a man brought him a letter containing a demand for the immediate payment of 300 ducats, or, if that was not convenient, for its being deposited in a tree which was indicated. The alternative was considerable. My friend had not the money in the house, and came down to ask for advice. 'Your line of conduct is very clear,' I told him. 'You have either to pay the money or stand to be shot at.'"

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.—The crops wear a promising look. Harvest has already commenced in various parts of the country, and the grain fields everywhere present more or less obvious indications of an early ripening. Should the present fine weather continue, the wheat, the barley, and the rye will everywhere be in immediate request. The rains have, in a rule, done very little damage in laying the corn, indeed, but last year it was usual under such heavy downfalls, whilst they have been decidedly beneficial to the turnips, roots, pastures, and second grass crops.







**HASTINGS and ST. LEONARDS, via TUN-**  
BRIDGE WHEELS, for SUNDAY, by the  
EXCURSION TRAIN leaving the London Bridge  
Station at 8.30 a.m. Returning at  
6.50 p.m.

**RAM GATE, MARGATE, and BACK, for**  
SUNDAY, by the SOUTH-EASTERN  
RAILWAY, from London Bridge Station, at 7.40 a.m.,  
and 8.55 a.m. on Sunday, and 7.50 a.m. on Monday,  
from Ramsgate at 7.0 p.m., Margate at 6.45 on Sunday,  
and 6.45 p.m. on Monday.

**DOVER, FOLKESTONE.—TWO EXPRESS**  
EXCURSION TRAINS every SUNDAY by the SOUTH-  
EASTERN RAILWAY, from London Bridge Station, at 8.35 a.m.,  
(as hitherto) and 9.55 a.m. (a new 24-hour train). Fare, there and  
back (covered carriages), 3s. 6d.

**CANTERBURY and BACK for 3s. 6d. every**  
SUNDAY, by either the Train leaving London Bridge  
Station at 7.50 a.m. or the new Train at 9.55 a.m., via the SOUTH  
EASTERN RAILWAY. The quick route without change of  
carriage.

**READING, ALDERSHOT CAMP, and**  
GUILDFORD.—CHEAP EXCURSIONS every SUNDAY.  
Fares 3s. 6d., by the SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY,  
from London Bridge Station, at 8.45 a.m., returning same day.

**SHEERNESS, via NORTH KENT RAILWAY**  
and STROOD, 2s. 6d.—EXCURSIONS every SUNDAY,  
leaving London Bridge Station at 8.15 a.m., returning  
from Sheerness at 10.15 a.m. and 11.15 a.m.,  
ROCHESTER and CHATHAM, via North Kent Railway,  
and STROOD—EXCURSIONS every SUNDAY from London Bridge  
Station, by all trains. Fares, 2s. 6d.

**REDUCTION OF FARES TO OR FROM**  
DOVER and FOLKESTONE, by the SOUTH-EASTERN  
RAILWAY, performing the journey by Mail and Tidal Trains in  
two hours. Eleven Week day Trains either way.  
Fares between London Bridge, Dover, or Folkestone:—  
1st Class Express .. .. 18s. 6d. 23s. 0d.  
2nd .. .. 14s. 6d. 18s. 6d.  
3rd .. .. 10s. 6d. 14s. 6d.  
On and after the 1st of August the train service will be acce-  
lerated and improved. C. W. EDOUARD, General-Manager.

**EXCURSION TO PARIS (with a Say of Three**  
Days and a Half), by the South-Eastern Railway, the short  
route in connection with the Northern of France Line, on the  
occasion of the Emperor's G and Fêtes at Paris, on Aug. 15, 1861;  
also the French National Rifle Contest at Vincennes. Excursion  
Tickets will be issued at the following fares, there and back:—  
Third Class (covered carriages), 25s. Second Class, 30s.  
Available by the train leaving London Bridge on Monday, Aug. 13,  
at 8.55 p.m., and returning on Friday, the 16th, at 10 p.m.; or  
Tuesday Aug. 13, at 8.55 p.m., and returning on Saturday, the 17th,  
at 10 p.m. The Tickets issued on the Monday will only be avail-  
able to return on the Friday, and those issued on the Tuesday  
to return on the Saturday. For all particulars see handbills.  
C. W. EDOUARD, General-Manager.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.—FIVE THOUSAND**  
CHILDREN of the METROPOLITAN CHARITY SCHOOLS  
will sing at the CRYSTAL PALACE in the GREAT HANDEL  
ORCHESTRA, on THURSDAY NEXT, August 8.  
The Children, in connection with the Northern of France Line, on the  
occasion of the Emperor's G and Fêtes at Paris, on Aug. 15, 1861;  
also the French National Rifle Contest at Vincennes. Excursion  
Tickets will be issued at the following fares, there and back:—  
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to return on the Saturday. For all particulars see handbills.  
C. W. EDOUARD, General-Manager.

**MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED, with Mr.**  
JOHN PARKY, will give their entirely new and original  
Entertainment, OUR CARD-BASKET, and THE TWO RIVAL  
COMPOSERS, EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at Eight;  
Thursday and Saturday Afternoons at Three; at the ROYAL  
GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. Unre-  
served Seats, 1s.; 2s.; 3s.; 4s.; 5s.; 6s.; 7s.; 8s.; 9s.; 10s.; 11s.; 12s.; 13s.; 14s.; 15s.; 16s.; 17s.; 18s.; 19s.; 20s.; 21s.; 22s.; 23s.; 24s.; 25s.; 26s.; 27s.; 28s.; 29s.; 30s.; 31s.; 32s.; 33s.; 34s.; 35s.; 36s.; 37s.; 38s.; 39s.; 40s.; 41s.; 42s.; 43s.; 44s.; 45s.; 46s.; 47s.; 48s.; 49s.; 50s.; 51s.; 52s.; 53s.; 54s.; 55s.; 56s.; 57s.; 58s.; 59s.; 60s.; 61s.; 62s.; 63s.; 64s.; 65s.; 66s.; 67s.; 68s.; 69s.; 70s.; 71s.; 72s.; 73s.; 74s.; 75s.; 76s.; 77s.; 78s.; 79s.; 80s.; 81s.; 82s.; 83s.; 84s.; 85s.; 86s.; 87s.; 88s.; 89s.; 90s.; 91s.; 92s.; 93s.; 94s.; 95s.; 96s.; 97s.; 98s.; 99s.; 100s.; 101s.; 102s.; 103s.; 104s.; 105s.; 106s.; 107s.; 108s.; 109s.; 110s.; 111s.; 112s.; 113s.; 114s.; 115s.; 116s.; 117s.; 118s.; 119s.; 120s.; 121s.; 122s.; 123s.; 124s.; 125s.; 126s.; 127s.; 128s.; 129s.; 130s.; 131s.; 132s.; 133s.; 134s.; 135s.; 136s.; 137s.; 138s.; 139s.; 140s.; 141s.; 142s.; 143s.; 144s.; 145s.; 146s.; 147s.; 148s.; 149s.; 150s.; 151s.; 152s.; 153s.; 154s.; 155s.; 156s.; 157s.; 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